

# Migratory Bird and Waterfowl Hunting Digest 2018–2019



# Conservation Department Offices

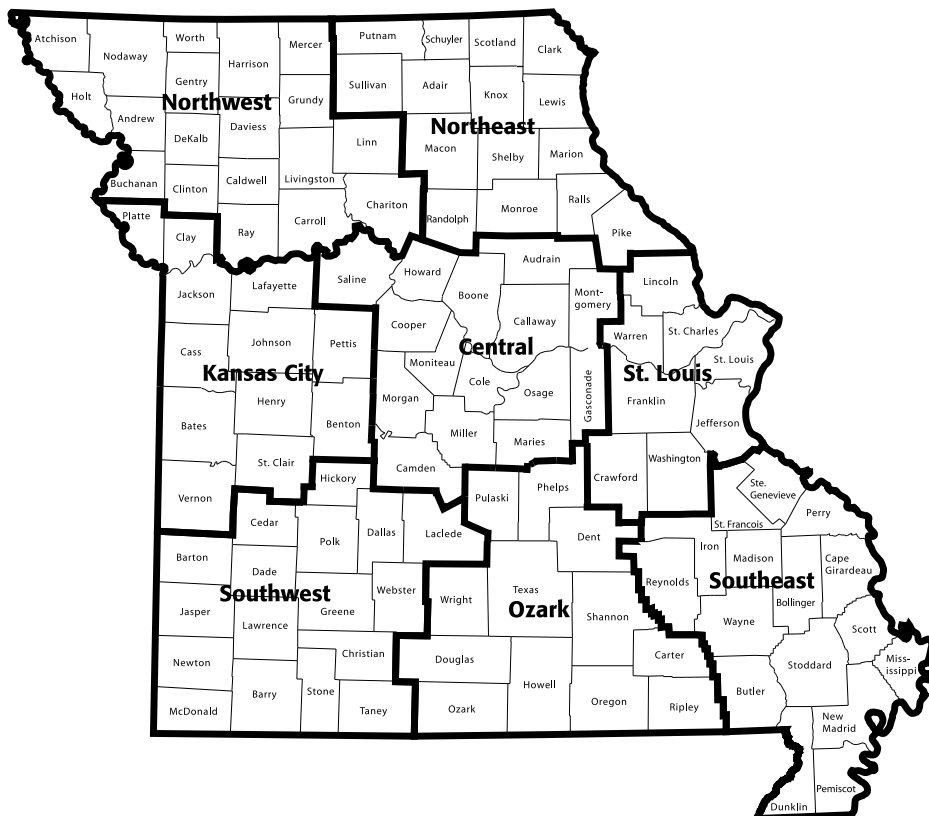


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Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, religion, national origin, sex, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, veteran status, or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, 573-751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to Chief, Public Civil Rights, Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.



## Central Region

3500 East Gans Road  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-815-7900

## Kansas City Region

12405 SE Ranson Road  
Lee's Summit, MO 64082  
816-622-0900

## Northeast Region

3500 S. Baltimore  
Kirksville, MO 63501  
660-785-2420

## Northwest Region

701 James McCarthy Drive  
St. Joseph, MO 64507  
816-271-3100

## Ozark Region

551 Joe Jones Blvd.  
West Plains, MO 65775  
417-256-7161

## Southeast Region

2302 County Park Drive  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
573-290-5730

## Southwest Region

2630 N. Mayfair  
Springfield, MO 65803  
417-895-6880

## St. Louis Region

2360 Highway D  
St. Charles, MO 63304  
636-441-4554



**To report poaching or game-law violations, call**

**Operation Game Thief**

**800-392-1111**

**Rewards are available for information  
leading to the arrest of game-law violators.  
You can remain anonymous.**

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## What's New for 2018?

- Due to federal and state regulations, you are now required to provide a Social Security Number to obtain hunting, fishing, and trapping permits. See Page 5.
- You now may take two pintails daily. (Last season's daily bag limit allowed only one pintail.)
- Youth Waterfowl-Hunting Days in the North Zone and Middle Zone will occur a week earlier than in the past to avoid conflicting with the youth portion of firearms deer season. See the back cover for season dates.
- What were formerly the *Migratory Bird Hunting Digest* and the *Waterfowl Hunting Digest* have been combined into a single, easier-to-use booklet. The new format is easier to navigate thanks to color-coded tabs, consistent blocks of information for each of the various seasons, and self-contained season sections that summarize everything you need to know to have a safe, legal hunt.



# Permits and Stamps

## Permit and Stamp Requirements

All hunters age 16 or older must carry the appropriate permits in either paper, plastic, or electronic format to pursue, take, possess, and transport migratory game birds in Missouri. The permits you need depend upon whether you are a resident or nonresident hunter and the game birds that you plan to hunt.

### Ducks, Geese, and Coots

Three permits are required.

- ❶ Small Game Hunting Permit
- ❷ Migratory Bird Hunting Permit
- ❸ Federal Duck Stamp

### Doves, Rails, Snipe, and Woodcock

Two permits are required.

- ❶ Small Game Hunting Permit
- ❷ Migratory Bird Hunting Permit

### Snow, Blue, and Ross's Geese During the Conservation Order

One permit is required.

- ❶ Conservation Order Permit

## Small Game Hunting Permits

The Conservation Department offers a variety of small game hunting permits for residents and nonresidents. Only one small game hunting permit is needed to hunt migratory game birds.

Some hunters are not required to possess a small game hunting permit.

- If you are a resident landowner (as defined by the *Wildlife Code of Missouri*), you do not need a small game hunting permit to hunt on your own land.
- If you are a Missouri resident 65 or older, you do not need a small game hunting permit.
- If you are an honorably discharged resident or nonresident veteran having a service-related disability of 60 percent or greater; a member of the U.S. military currently assigned as a patient to a Warrior Transition Brigade, Warrior Transition Unit, or a military medical center; or if you were a prisoner of war during military service, you do not need a small game hunting permit. However, you must carry a certified statement of eligibility from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or orders showing your assignment.

## Permit Requirements for Young Hunters

If you are 15 or younger, you do not need any permits to hunt migratory game birds in Missouri. However, you must:

- Hunt in the immediate presence of a properly licensed adult hunter age 18 or older who has a valid hunter-education card or was born before Jan. 1, 1967;
- Or possess a valid hunter-education card.

**Note:** During Youth Waterfowl-Hunting Days, you must hunt in the immediate presence of an adult, regardless of whether or not you have a valid hunter-education card. See Page 13.

## Hunter-Education Requirement

You must complete an approved hunter-education program in Missouri or another state to buy firearms hunting permits unless:

- You were born before Jan. 1, 1967.
- You are 15 or younger and hunting in the immediate presence of a properly licensed adult hunter 18 or older who has a valid hunter-education card or was born before Jan. 1, 1967.
- You are using an Apprentice Hunter Authorization. See Page 5.
- You have a developmental disability. See Rule 3 CSR 10-5.205 of the *Wildlife Code of Missouri*.

All hunters, unless exempt, must carry their hunter-education card or a permit with their hunter-education number on it while hunting with a firearm. The Missouri Conservation Heritage Card or Conservation Permit Card with a hunter-education number on it is also acceptable.

A hunter-education card need not be displayed when buying permits if certification can be verified online. If this is not possible, some hunters will need to contact the Conservation Department to provide proof of hunter-education certification. Once in Missouri's permit database, hunters won't have to submit this information again.

For more information on hunter education, including how to earn certification, visit [mdc.mo.gov/huntereducation](http://mdc.mo.gov/huntereducation).

## Who May Purchase Resident Permits?

- Any person who does not claim resident privileges in another state or country, and whose actual residence and legal permanent home address are both in Missouri, and have been for at least 30 days before applying for the permit. Owning real estate or attending a Missouri school does not in itself make you a legal resident.
- Missouri residents employed by the United States in the District of Columbia or serving in the U.S. armed forces. (Immediate family members who reside with them also may purchase resident permits.)
- All members of the U.S. armed forces stationed and residing in Missouri on permanent change-of-station status and immediate family members residing with them.
- Any honorably discharged military veteran having a service-related disability of 60 percent or greater, or who was a prisoner of war during military service; must carry a certified statement of eligibility from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs while hunting and purchasing permits.
- Any member of the U.S. military currently assigned as a patient to a Warrior Transition Brigade, Warrior Transition Unit, or a military medical center; must carry orders showing such assignment while hunting and purchasing permits.

- Nonresidents who are registered students attending a public or private secondary, postsecondary, or vocational school in Missouri and who live in Missouri while attending school; must carry evidence of a Missouri residence and student status, such as a student ID, while hunting. **Note:** Nonresident students who qualify for resident permits must purchase them in person, over the phone, or through the mail from Conservation Department offices.
- Immigrants who possess an I-551 Resident Alien Card from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service and who do not claim resident privileges in another state or country, and whose actual residence and legal permanent home address are both in Missouri, and have been for at least 30 days before purchasing a permit.

## MO Hunting App

The Conservation Department's free MO Hunting app offers a quick, easy, and convenient option for carrying your permits afield. The app, which is available for Apple and Android mobile devices, allows you to:

- Purchase permits and duck stamps.
- See all the hunting, fishing, and trapping permits you have purchased — even if they were purchased from a traditional vendor, online, or by telephone.
- Carry valid, electronic permits afield. **Note:** The MO Hunting app will display your purchase of a Federal Duck Stamp, but you must sign and carry a paper duck stamp afield after your 45-day e-Stamp has expired.

To log in to MO Hunting, you'll need your Conservation Number. This nine-digit number can be found on any current or previous permit. For help locating your Conservation Number, call 573-522-0107 during regular business hours, or go to [short.mdc.mo.gov/ZkH](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/ZkH).

MO Hunting is available in the Google Play and iTunes stores. You can also get MO Hunting and learn more about the app at [mdc.mo.gov/mobile/mobile-apps](http://mdc.mo.gov/mobile/mobile-apps).

## Where to Purchase Permits

- Over the counter from any permit vendor. No surcharges will be assessed.
- Online at [mdc.mo.gov/permits](http://mdc.mo.gov/permits). Use your credit card to pay. No surcharges will be assessed. Print your permit at home and have it in hand immediately.
- From your smartphone using the free MO Hunting app. Use your credit card to pay. No surcharges will be assessed. Your permit will appear on the app immediately after purchase.
- By telephone at 800-392-4115. Use your credit card and pay a \$1 surcharge. Allow 10 days for delivery.

## Where to Purchase Duck Stamps

- Duck stamps are no longer sold at waterfowl hunting areas, except for Columbia Bottom.
- Many permit vendors no longer sell traditional (paper) duck stamps. However, all permit vendors offer electronic duck stamps (see next bullet).
- You may now buy duck stamps online at [mdc.mo.gov/permits](http://mdc.mo.gov/permits), from a retail permit vendor, or through the MO Hunting app. An electronic duck stamp (e-Stamp) will be issued to you, and a paper duck stamp will be mailed to you. The e-Stamp may be used immediately and is valid for 45 days. After 45 days, you must sign and carry the paper duck stamp that is mailed to you. The cost of an e-Stamp is \$28.50, which includes a \$3.50 handling fee. This fee is set and fully retained by the federal government. If you do not receive your paper duck stamp, please contact Amplex customer service at 800-852-4897.
- Traditional (paper) duck stamps may be purchased for \$25 at some U.S. Post Offices. Please contact the office before you visit to ask if duck stamps are available.

## Replacing Permits

If you lose your permit, simply download the MO Hunting app to your Android or Apple mobile device, log in with your Conservation Number, and a valid, electronic version of your permit will appear on the app. Any active, valid permit can be reprinted at home for free at [mdc.mo.gov/buypermits](http://mdc.mo.gov/buypermits). Replacement permits can also be purchased from any vendor for \$2.

## Apprentice Hunter Authorization

Hunters age 16 or older who do not have a valid hunter-education card may hunt with firearms, as long as they:

- First purchase an Apprentice Hunter Authorization;
- Then purchase permits for the season they want to hunt; and
- Hunt in the immediate presence of a properly licensed adult who has a valid hunter-education card or was born before Jan. 1, 1967.

**Note:** The Apprentice Hunter Authorization by itself does not allow you to hunt. It only allows those who have not completed a hunter-education course to purchase firearms permits. The Apprentice Hunter Authorization can be purchased for no more than two years.

## Social Security Number Requirement

**New!** Federal Statute 42 U.S.C. § 666 and Missouri Revised Statute 454.403 require buyers of Missouri hunting, fishing, and trapping permits to provide their Social Security Number (SSN). Individuals who do not have SSNs will be required to affirm that information. Falsifying an SSN may result in revocation of privileges or criminal charges. SSNs are securely stored and used in support of the Missouri Department of Social Service's child support enforcement.

# Permits and Stamps

## Resident Small Game Hunting Permit

This permit allows you to take birds (except turkey), mammals (except deer), frogs, and to sell furbearers taken by hunting.

Cost..... \$10

## Resident Small Game Hunting and Fishing Permit

This permit allows the same privileges as the Resident Small Game Hunting Permit, plus it allows you to take fish, mussels, clams, turtles, crayfish, and live bait.

Cost..... \$19

## Resident National Guard and Reserve Service Small Game Hunting and Fishing Permit

This permit allows the same privileges as the Resident Small Game Hunting and Fishing Permit. It is for Missouri residents who are mobilized (or have been in the past 12 months) and are serving on full-time active duty in the National Guard (federal status) or U.S. Reserves.

Cost.....\$5

### To apply for this permit:

- Go online at [short.mdc.mo.gov/ZJ9](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/ZJ9).
- Call 573-522-0107.
- Write to National Guard Permits, Missouri Department of Conservation, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180.

## Nonresident Small Game Hunting Permit

This permit allows you to take birds (except turkey), mammals (except deer and furbearers), and frogs. It is valid from March 1 through the last day of February.

Cost..... \$80

## Daily Small Game Hunting Permit

This permit allows you to take birds (except turkey), mammals (except deer and furbearers), and frogs. It is valid for a single day only, but you may purchase additional daily permits to hunt additional days.

Cost..... \$11

## Resident Conservation Order Permit

This is the only permit you need to hunt light geese during the Conservation Order.

Cost.....\$5

## Nonresident Conservation Order Permit

This is the only permit you need to hunt light geese during the Conservation Order.

Cost..... \$40

## Resident Lifetime Small Game Hunting Permit

This permit allows the same privileges as the Small Game Hunting Permit, Migratory Bird Hunting Permit, and Conservation Order Permit. Deer and turkey hunting privileges are not included. A Federal Duck Stamp is required to hunt waterfowl.

Age 15 or younger..... \$275

Age 16–29 ..... \$400

Age 30–39 ..... \$350

Age 40–59 ..... \$300

Age 60 or older..... \$35

### To apply for this permit:

- Go online at [short.mdc.mo.gov/ZJ4](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/ZJ4).
- Call 573-522-0107.
- Email [Lifetime.Permit@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Lifetime.Permit@mdc.mo.gov).

## Resident Lifetime Conservation Partner Permit

This permit allows the same privileges as the Small Game Hunting and Fishing Permit, Trout Permit, Migratory Bird Hunting Permit, and Conservation Order Permit. Deer and turkey hunting privileges are not included. A Federal Duck Stamp is required to hunt waterfowl.

Age 15 or younger..... \$550

Age 16–29 ..... \$800

Age 30–39 ..... \$700

Age 40–59 ..... \$600

Age 60 or older..... \$70

### To apply for this permit:

- Go online at [short.mdc.mo.gov/ZJ4](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/ZJ4).
- Call 573-522-0107.
- Email [Lifetime.Permit@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Lifetime.Permit@mdc.mo.gov).

## Migratory Bird Hunting Permit

This permit is required of all resident and nonresident migratory bird hunters (including landowners), age 16 or older.

Cost.....\$6

## Federal Duck Stamp

This stamp is required of all resident and nonresident waterfowl hunters, age 16 or older. You may buy duck stamps online and at some U.S. Post Offices, Conservation Department offices, and permit vendors (see Page 5 for more information). Paper duck stamps must be signed in ink across the face.

Cost..... \$25





# Dove Season



## Dates

Sept. 1, 2018, to Nov. 29, 2018



## Shooting Hours

One-half hour before sunrise to sunset



## Limits

- Mourning doves, white-winged doves, and Eurasian collared-doves count toward daily and possession limits.
- The daily bag limit is 15 doves, combined total of all three species.
- The possession limit is 45 doves, combined total of all three species.



## Allowed

- Shotguns, must be 10 gauge or smaller and manufactured or modified so as not to hold more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined
- Hunting dogs
- Motor boats or sailboats may be used, but only if the motor has been shut off and/or the sails furled, and the boat's progress therefrom has stopped.
- Other methods are allowed by state and federal regulations. Please consult Chapter 7 of the *Wildlife Code of Missouri* for more information.



## Prohibited

- Rifles and pistols
- Firearms that propel a single projectile at one discharge
- Punt guns, battery guns, swivel guns, fully automatic firearms, traps, snares, nets, fish hooks, poisons, drugs, explosives, and stupefying substances
- Motor vehicles or aircraft. Paraplegics and people missing one or both legs may hunt from a stationary vehicle.
- Sink boxes or any other type of low-floating device that conceals the hunter beneath the surface of the water
- Electronic calls or electronically activated calls
- Any sighting device that casts a beam of light on the game
- Night vision or thermal imagery equipment
- Live decoys
- Bait (see Page 32)



## Permits

Two permits are required. See Page 6 for permit details.

- 1 Small Game Hunting Permit
- 2 Migratory Bird Hunting Permit

## Hunters Provide Valuable Dove Data by Reporting Bands and Collecting Wings

Mourning doves are one of the most widely distributed and abundant game birds in North America. Up-to-date survival and harvest rate information is critical for understanding the effects of annual hunting regulations on mourning dove populations. Banding is an important tool for obtaining this information.

Missouri, in cooperation with other dove hunting states, is participating in a nationwide mourning dove banding program. Information from this program will be used to determine mourning dove harvest rates, estimate annual survival, and provide information regarding the geographical distribution of harvest.

As part of this program, more than 26,000 mourning doves have been banded in Missouri, and more than 3,000 banded doves have been reported by hunters. Captured doves are fitted with a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) band inscribed with an identification number, web address, and toll-free telephone number for band reporting.

Hunters should examine their mourning doves for leg bands. By reporting banded doves, you help manage this important migratory bird resource.

Missouri also is cooperating with the USFWS in collecting mourning dove wings from hunters. Randomly selected hunters will be asked to save one wing from each dove during the first week of the season and mail the wings (postage free) to the USFWS. Hunters using high-use public areas may be asked to provide dove wings as part of the monitoring effort. Data from the wings, in combination with information from banded birds, will be used to help establish hunting regulations.

## Dove Hunting on Public Land

Dove hunting fields on conservation areas are planted in sunflowers, wheat, millet, buckwheat, corn, or a combination of crops. Each field provides a different type of hunting experience.

To locate dove fields, contact the regional office for the area you want to hunt. Maps of areas that have dove fields are available from the Conservation Department's website at [short.mdc.mo.gov/ZZ7](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/ZZ7).

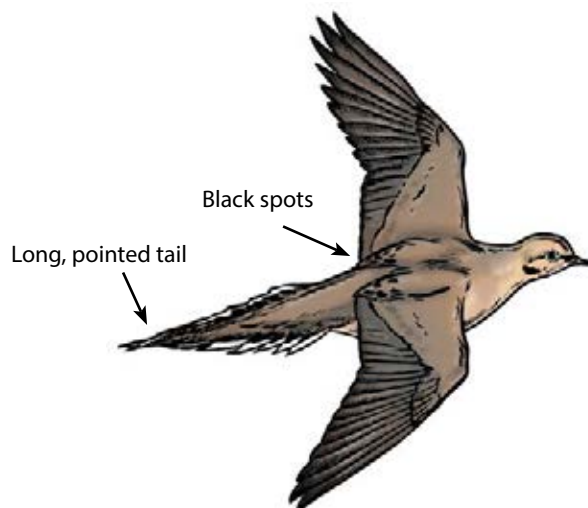
Remember: Keep Missouri litter free. Be sure to pack out empty shotgun shells and shell boxes when you leave for the day.



# Dove Identification

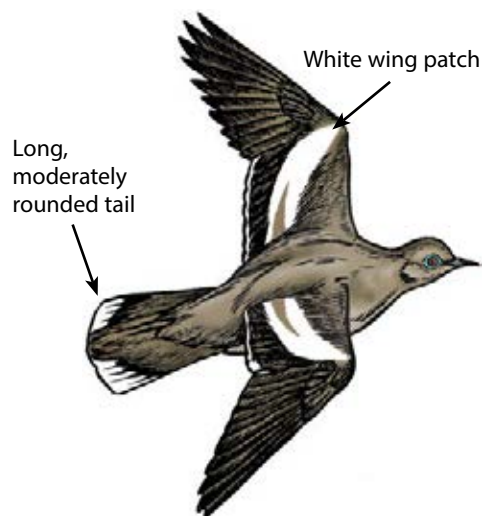
## Mourning dove

- Grayish-brown
- Faster wing beat, more erratic flight path than white-winged dove
- 12 inches from tip of beak to end of tail
- Call is a soft, inflected *cooAHoo* followed by several coos



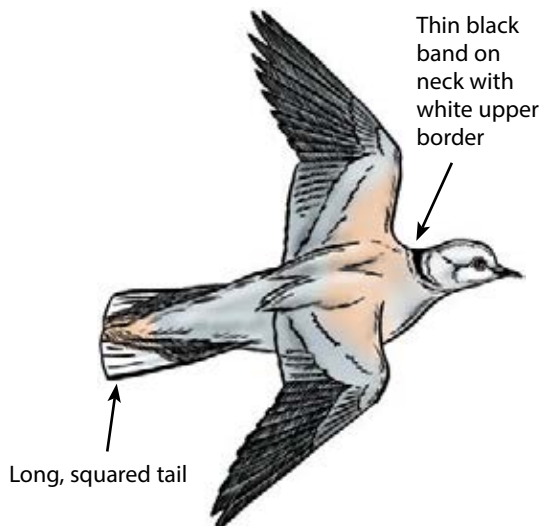
## White-winged dove

- Grayish-brown
- Slightly larger than mourning dove
- Call is a soft *hoohoo hoohoo* with the final note descending



## Eurasian collared-dove

- Gray
- 13 inches from tip of beak to end of tail
- Call is a three-part *coo* with similar tone to a domestic pigeon



# Rail, Snipe, and Woodcock Seasons



Virginia rail

INOPHOTO.COM

## Dates

- **Sora and Virginia Rails:** Sept. 1, 2018, to Nov. 9, 2018
- **Wilson's (Common) Snipe:** Sept. 1, 2018, to Dec. 16, 2018
- **American Woodcock:** Oct. 15, 2018, to Nov. 28, 2018

## Shooting Hours

One-half hour before sunrise to sunset

## Limits

- **Sora and Virginia Rails:** 25 daily (combined total of both species)
- **Wilson's (common) Snipe:** Eight daily
- **American Woodcock:** Three daily
- Possession limits are three times the daily bag limits for rails, snipe, and woodcock.

## Allowed

- Shotguns, must be 10 gauge or smaller and manufactured or modified so as not to hold more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined
- Hunting dogs
- Motor boats or sailboats may be used, but only if the motor has been shut off and/or the sails furled, and the boat's progress therefrom has stopped.
- Other methods are allowed by state and federal regulations. Please consult Chapter 7 of the *Wildlife Code of Missouri* for more information.

## Permits

Two permits are required. See Page 6 for permit details.

- 1 Small Game Hunting Permit
- 2 Migratory Bird Hunting Permit

## Prohibited

- Rifles and pistols
- Firearms that propel a single projectile at one discharge
- Punt guns, battery guns, swivel guns, fully automatic firearms, traps, snares, nets, fish hooks, poisons, drugs, explosives, and stupefying substances
- Motor vehicles or aircraft. Paraplegics and people missing one or both legs may hunt from a stationary vehicle.
- Sink boxes or any other type of low-floating device that conceals the hunter beneath the surface of the water
- Electronic calls or electronically activated calls
- Any sighting device that casts a beam of light on the game
- Night vision or thermal imagery equipment
- Live decoys
- Bait (see Page 32)

# Rail, Snipe, and Woodcock Identification

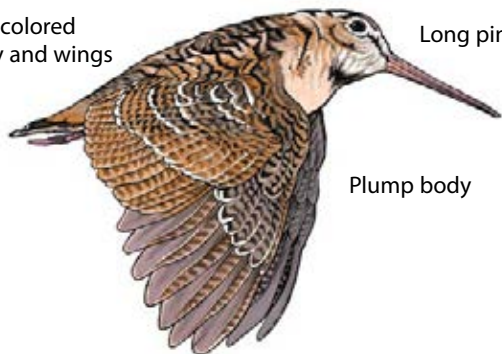
## LEGAL during migratory bird season

### American woodcock

Buff-colored  
body and wings

Long pink bill

Plump body



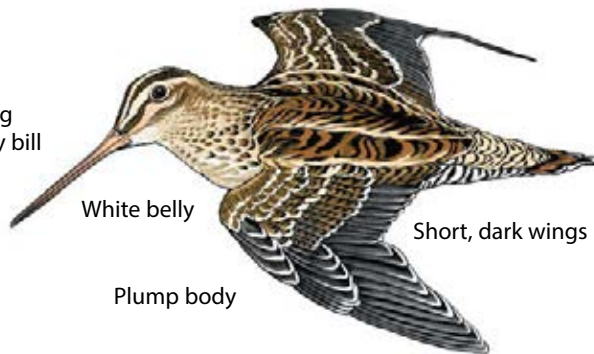
### Wilson's (common) snipe

Long  
gray bill

White belly

Plump body

Short, dark wings



### Virginia rail

Long red bill

Cinnamon-red breast

Reddish-orange  
legs dangle in flight.

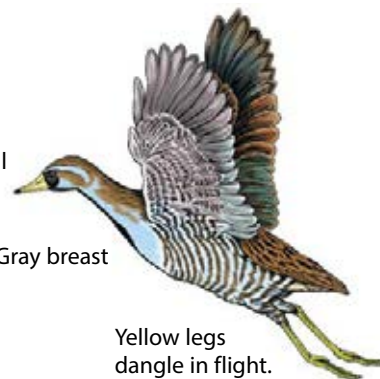


### Sora

Short  
yellow bill

Gray breast

Yellow legs  
dangle in flight.



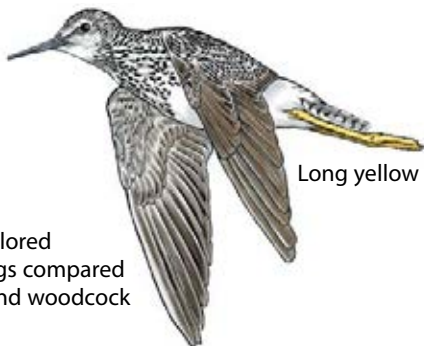
## ILLEGAL during migratory bird seasons

### Lesser and greater yellowlegs

Gray bill, shorter than  
the bills of snipe or  
woodcock

Long yellow legs

Lighter-colored  
underwings compared  
to snipe and woodcock



### Long-billed and short-billed dowitchers

White wedge  
extends from tail  
to middle of back.

Long bill



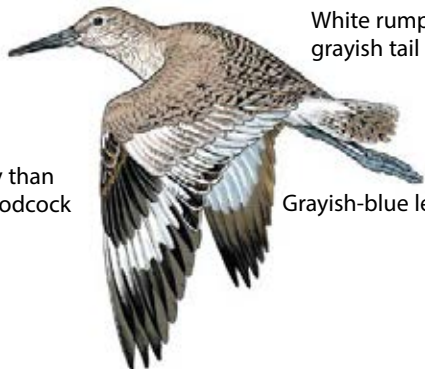
### Willet

Gray bill is shorter and  
heavier compared to  
snipe and woodcock.

White rump,  
grayish tail

Larger body than  
snipe or woodcock

Grayish-blue legs



### Stilt sandpiper

Slimmer than snipe and woodcock

Gray bill, pronounced droop  
at the tip, shorter than the  
bills of snipe or woodcock

Long, greenish-yellow legs





# Teal Season



Blue-winged teal

JIM RATHERT

## Dates

Sept. 8–23, 2018

## Shooting Hours

Sunrise to sunset

## Limits

- Blue-winged teal, green-winged teal, and cinnamon teal count toward daily and possession limits.
- The daily bag limit is six teal, combined total of all three species.
- The possession limit is 18 teal, combined total of all three species.

## Allowed

- Shotguns, must be 10 gauge or smaller and manufactured or modified so as not to hold more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined
- Hunting dogs
- Motor boats or sailboats may be used, but only if the motor has been shut off and/or the sails furled, and the boat's progress therefrom has stopped.
- Other methods are allowed by state and federal regulations. Please consult Chapter 7 of the *Wildlife Code of Missouri* for more information.

## September Teal Season Rationale

Blue-winged teal are among the earliest ducks to migrate south during fall and the latest to head north during spring. The first teal typically arrive in Missouri during August, and their numbers usually peak around mid-September. Teal migrations through Missouri tend to be more sporadic than other waterfowl species. Teal are generally present in significant numbers only during and shortly after migration events. These migrations can occur at any time from late August through early October. Opening the season on the first Saturday after Labor Day provides hunting opportunity during mid-September, when teal migrations often occur. This timing also provides Missouri teal hunters with hunting opportunity during three of five September weekends in 2018.

## Prohibited

- Lead shot or other shot that has not been listed as nontoxic by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. For a list of approved nontoxic shot, see Page 33.
- Rifles and pistols
- Firearms that propel a single projectile at one discharge
- Punt guns, battery guns, swivel guns, fully automatic firearms, traps, snares, nets, fish hooks, poisons, drugs, explosives, and stupefying substances
- Motor vehicles or aircraft. Paraplegics and people missing one or both legs may hunt from a stationary vehicle.
- Sink boxes or any other type of low-floating device that conceals the hunter beneath the surface of the water
- Electronic calls or electronically activated calls
- Any sighting device that casts a beam of light on the game
- Night vision or thermal imagery equipment
- Live decoys
- Bait (see Page 32)

## Permits

Three permits are required. See Page 6 for permit details.

- 1 Small Game Hunting Permit
- 2 Migratory Bird Hunting Permit
- 3 Federal Duck Stamp

# Youth Waterfowl-Hunting Days

## Dates

To participate, you must be age 15 or younger. An adult 18 years or older must accompany you. The adult may not hunt ducks during Youth Waterfowl-Hunting Days, but he or she may participate in other open seasons.

- **North Zone:** Oct. 20–21, 2018
- **Middle Zone:** Oct. 20–21, 2018
- **South Zone:** Nov. 17–18, 2018

## Shooting Hours

One-half hour before sunrise to sunset

## Limits

### **Six ducks daily with species restrictions of:**

- Four mallards (no more than two hens)
- Three scaup (greater and lesser combined)
- Three wood ducks
- Two black ducks
- Two canvasbacks
- Two hooded mergansers
- **New!** Two pintails
- Two redheads
- One mottled duck

### **15 coots daily**

### **20 light geese daily (snow, blue, and Ross's geese)**

### **Three Canada geese and brant daily (combined total of both species)**

### **Two white-fronted geese daily**

Possession limits are three times the daily bag limits for ducks, coots, Canada geese, brant, and white-fronted geese. Light geese have no possession limit.

## Allowed

- Shotguns, must be 10 gauge or smaller and manufactured or modified so as not to hold more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined
- Hunting dogs
- Motor boats or sailboats may be used, but only if the motor has been shut off and/or the sails furled, and the boat's progress therefrom has stopped.
- Other methods are allowed by state and federal regulations. Please consult Chapter 7 of the *Wildlife Code of Missouri* for more information.

## Prohibited

- Lead shot or other shot that has not been listed as nontoxic by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. For a list of approved nontoxic shot, see Page 33.
- Rifles and pistols
- Firearms that propel a single projectile at one discharge
- Punt guns, battery guns, swivel guns, fully automatic firearms, traps, snares, nets, fish hooks, poisons, drugs, explosives, and stupefying substances
- Motor vehicles or aircraft. Paraplegics and people missing one or both legs may hunt from a stationary vehicle.
- Sink boxes or any other type of low-floating device that conceals the hunter beneath the surface of the water
- Electronic calls or electronically activated calls
- Any sighting device that casts a beam of light on the game
- Night vision or thermal imagery equipment
- Live decoys
- Bait (see Page 32)

## Permits

You do not need a permit to participate in Youth Waterfowl-Hunting Days.

- If you have a hunter-education card, the adult who accompanies you does not need a hunter-education card or a hunting permit.
- If you don't have a hunter-education card, the adult who accompanies you must be hunter-education certified unless they were born before Jan. 1, 1967. The adult also must have a Missouri small game hunting permit or be exempt.

## Timing of Youth Waterfowl-Hunting Days

Youth Waterfowl-Hunting Days have typically occurred the weekend before the regular duck season opens. However, the weekend before the regular season in the North and Middle zones often falls on the same weekend as the Early Youth Firearms Deer Season. To encourage both youth waterfowl hunting and youth deer hunting, Youth Waterfowl-Hunting Days in the North and Middle zones will be held two weekends before the regular season. Youth Waterfowl-Hunting Days in the South Zone will continue to be held the weekend before Thanksgiving.

# Duck and Coot Seasons

## Dates

- **North Zone:** Nov. 3, 2018, to Jan. 1, 2019
- **Middle Zone:** Nov. 3–9, 2018, and Nov. 15, 2018, to Jan. 6, 2019
- **South Zone:** Nov. 22–25, 2018, and Dec. 3, 2018, to Jan. 27, 2019

## Shooting Hours

One-half hour before sunrise to sunset

## Limits

### Six ducks daily with species restrictions of:

- Four mallards (no more than two hens)
- Three scaup (greater and lesser combined)
- Three wood ducks
- Two black ducks
- Two canvasbacks
- Two hooded mergansers
- **New!** Two pintails
- Two redheads
- One mottled duck

### 15 coots daily

Possession limits are three times the daily bag limits for ducks and coots.

## Allowed

- Shotguns, must be 10 gauge or smaller and manufactured or modified so as not to hold more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined
- Hunting dogs
- Motor boats or sailboats may be used, but only if the motor has been shut off and/or the sails furled, and the boat's progress therefrom has stopped.
- Other methods are allowed by state and federal regulations. Please consult Chapter 7 of the *Wildlife Code of Missouri* for more information.

## Prohibited

- Lead shot or other shot that has not been listed as nontoxic by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. For a list of approved nontoxic shot, see Page 33.
- Rifles and pistols
- Firearms that propel a single projectile at one discharge
- Punt guns, battery guns, swivel guns, fully automatic firearms, traps, snares, nets, fish hooks, poisons, drugs, explosives, and stupefying substances
- Motor vehicles or aircraft. Paraplegics and people missing one or both legs may hunt from a stationary vehicle.
- Sink boxes or any other type of low-floating device that conceals the hunter beneath the surface of the water
- Electronic calls or electronically activated calls
- Any sighting device that casts a beam of light on the game
- Night vision or thermal imagery equipment
- Live decoys
- Bait (see Page 32)

## Permits

Three permits are required. See Page 6 for permit details.

- 1 Small Game Hunting Permit
- 2 Migratory Bird Hunting Permit
- 3 Federal Duck Stamp

## Duck Season Date Formulas

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service offers state conservation agencies the opportunity to consider duck zone boundary changes and the use of split seasons about every five years. The next opportunity for change will be in 2021. The Conservation Department also will consider adjustments to season date formulas at this time. The season date formulas and duck zone boundaries established in 2017 are shown on Page 15. For more information about the rationale for current season date formulas and zone boundaries visit [short.mdc.mo.gov/Z4r](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/Z4r).

## Duck Season Rationale

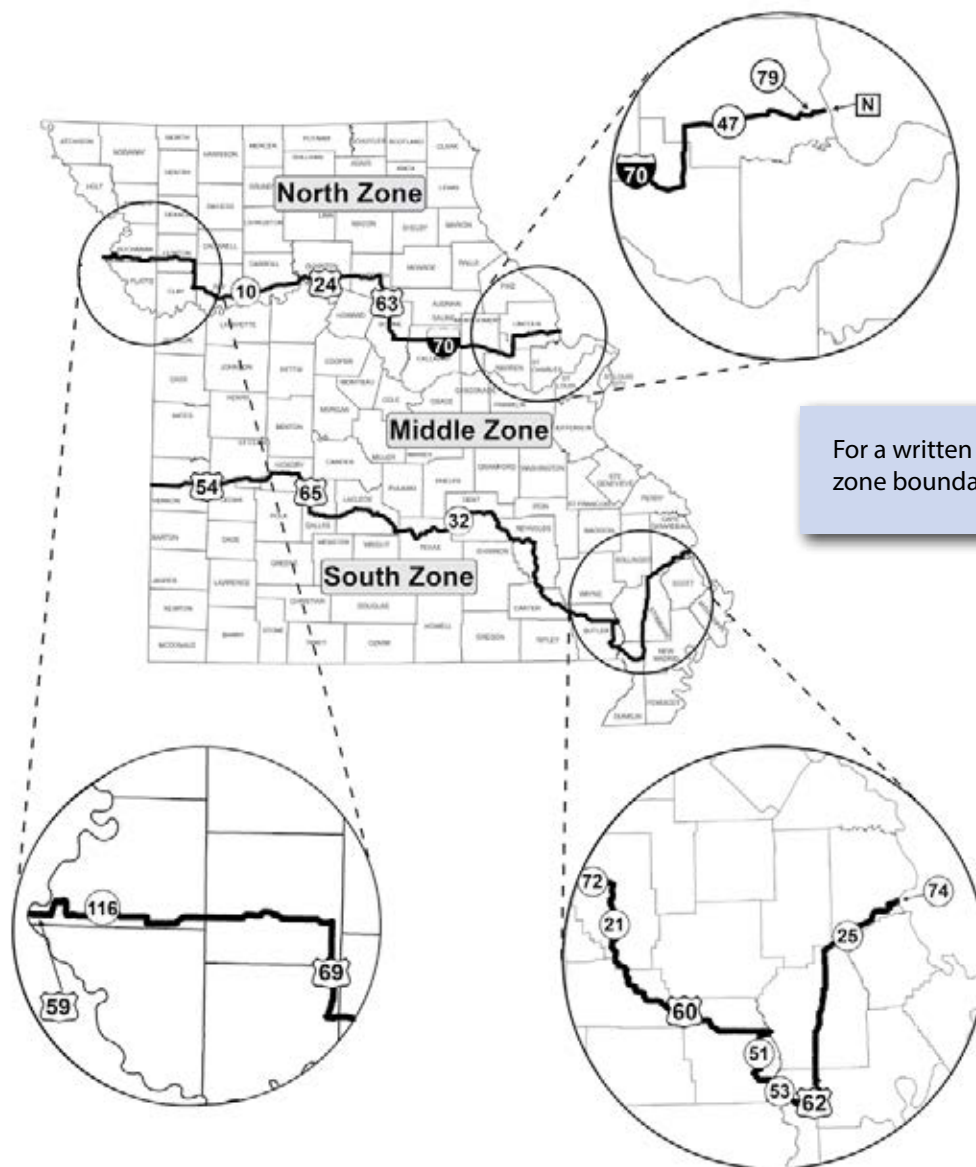
Hunter input is a critical consideration when setting duck season dates. The Conservation Department conducts an in-depth survey and hunter workshops as part of a season structure review every five years. The message received from many hunters during the last review was that they desired later seasons. In response, the Department adjusted season date formulas in all three zones beginning with the 2017 season to provide additional late-season hunting.

Although season date changes were made to accommodate hunter preferences, the Department recognizes that the dates may not be ideal for some hunters. The season date formulas provide a middle ground among hunters who want earlier and later seasons. Based on the calendar year, the formulas result in season timing that varies by about a week over a seven-year period. Therefore, they benefit those who desire earlier seasons during some years and those who desire later seasons in other years.

Maintaining season dates for five years provides a better opportunity for hunters to evaluate how they like the season dates under a range of weather conditions. It also helps hunters plan for hunting trips well in advance.



# Duck Hunting Zones



Zone	Liberal (60 Days)	Moderate (45 Days)	Restrictive (30 Days)
<b>North</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opens on first Saturday in November</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opens on second Saturday in November</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opens on Saturday nearest Nov. 14</li> </ul>
<b>Middle</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opens on Saturday nearest Nov. 6 for seven days</li> <li>Closes for five days</li> <li>Opens again for 53 days</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opens on Saturday nearest Nov. 15</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opens on Saturday nearest Nov. 19</li> </ul>
<b>South</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opens on Thanksgiving Day for four days</li> <li>Closes (if needed to avoid an excess of 60 days)</li> <li>Opens again and runs until last Sunday in January</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opens on Saturday nearest Dec. 10</li> <li>Closes Dec. 20–25</li> <li>Opens again on Dec. 26 and runs until last Sunday in January</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opens on Saturday nearest Dec. 15</li> <li>Closes Dec. 19–25</li> <li>Opens again on Dec. 26 and runs until Sunday nearest Jan. 20</li> </ul>

Each year's regulation recommendation is based on the status of the mallard breeding population and the condition of prairie ponds in Canada. A three-tiered package of open seasons includes liberal (60 days), moderate (45 days), and restrictive (30 days) options. For more information, go to: [flyways.us/regulations-and-harvest/adaptive-harvest-management](https://flyways.us/regulations-and-harvest/adaptive-harvest-management).

# Goose Seasons



Canada goose

JIM RATHER

## Dates

- Early Season (Canada geese and brant only): Oct. 6–14, 2018
- Regular Season (all legal species): Nov. 11, 2018, to Feb. 6, 2019

## Shooting Hours

One-half hour before sunrise to sunset

## Allowed

- Shotguns, must be 10 gauge or smaller and manufactured or modified so as not to hold more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined
- Hunting dogs
- Motor boats or sailboats may be used, but only if the motor has been shut off and/or the sails furled, and the boat's progress therefrom has stopped.
- Other methods are allowed by state and federal regulations. Please consult Chapter 7 of the *Wildlife Code of Missouri* for more information.

## Goose Season Rationale

Missouri's goose regulations are intended to be simple and provide ample opportunity when hunters most desire to hunt geese. The early goose season in October is timed to take advantage of molt-migrant Canada geese returning to the state and provides waterfowl hunters additional opportunity after the September teal season and before the regular waterfowl seasons. The regular goose season is timed to provide concurrent duck and goose hunting as well as late-season goose hunting after the duck season closes. Hunters pursuing light geese (snow, blue, and Ross's geese) can take advantage of more liberal hunting methods after the Conservation Order begins on Feb. 7, 2019.

## Limits

- 20 light geese (snow, blue, and Ross's geese)
- Three Canada geese and brant (combined total of both species)
- Two white-fronted geese
- Possession limits are three times the daily bag limits for Canada geese, brant, and white-fronted geese. Light geese have no possession limit.

## Prohibited

- Lead shot or other shot that has not been listed as nontoxic by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. For a list of approved nontoxic shot, see Page 33.
- Rifles and pistols
- Firearms that propel a single projectile at one discharge
- Punt guns, battery guns, swivel guns, fully automatic firearms, traps, snares, nets, fish hooks, poisons, drugs, explosives, and stupefying substances
- Motor vehicles or aircraft. Paraplegics and people missing one or both legs may hunt from a stationary vehicle.
- Sink boxes or any other type of low-floating device that conceals the hunter beneath the surface of the water
- Electronic calls or electronically activated calls
- Any sighting device that casts a beam of light on the game
- Night vision or thermal imagery equipment
- Live decoys
- Bait (see Page 32)

## Permits

Three permits are required. See Page 6 for permit details.

- 1 Small Game Hunting Permit
- 2 Migratory Bird Hunting Permit
- 3 Federal Duck Stamp

# Light Goose Conservation Order

## Dates

Feb. 7, 2019, to April 30, 2019

## Shooting Hours

One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset

## Limits

During the Conservation Order there is no daily bag or possession limit for light geese (snow, blue, and Ross's geese).

## Allowed

- Shotguns, 10 gauge or smaller. During the Conservation Order, you may use shotguns that are capable of holding more than three shells.
- Electronic calls or electronically activated calls
- Hunting dogs
- Motor boats or sailboats may be used, but only if the motor has been shut off and/or the sails furled, and the boat's progress therefrom has stopped.
- Other methods are allowed by state and federal regulations. Please consult Chapter 7 of the *Wildlife Code of Missouri* for more information.

## Permits

One permit is required. See Page 6 for permit details.

- 1 Conservation Order Permit

## Prohibited

- Lead shot or other shot that has not been listed as nontoxic by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. For a list of approved nontoxic shot, see Page 33.
- Rifles and pistols
- Firearms that propel a single projectile at one discharge
- Punt guns, battery guns, swivel guns, fully automatic firearms, traps, snares, nets, fish hooks, poisons, drugs, explosives, and stupefying substances
- Motor vehicles or aircraft. Paraplegics and people missing one or both legs may hunt from a stationary vehicle.
- Sink boxes or any other type of low-floating device that conceals the hunter beneath the surface of the water
- Any sighting device that casts a beam of light on the game
- Night vision or thermal imagery equipment
- Live decoys
- Bait (see Page 32)

# Falconry

## Dates

### Doves

- **Statewide:** Sept. 1, 2018, to Dec. 16, 2018, from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset

### Ducks and Coots

- **Statewide:** Sept. 8–23, 2018, from sunrise to sunset
- **North Zone:** Oct. 20–21, 2018, and Nov. 3, 2018, to Jan. 1, 2019, from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset
- **Middle Zone:** Oct. 20–21, 2018, Nov. 3–9, 2018, and Nov. 15, 2018, to Jan. 6, 2019, from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset
- **South Zone:** Nov. 17–18, 2018, Nov. 22–25, 2018, and Dec. 3, 2018, to Jan. 27, 2019, from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset
- **Statewide:** Feb. 10, 2019, to March 10, 2019, from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset

## Limits

- The daily bag limit is three birds, combined total of doves, ducks, and coots.
- The possession limit is nine birds, combined total of doves, ducks, and coots.

## Additional Regulations

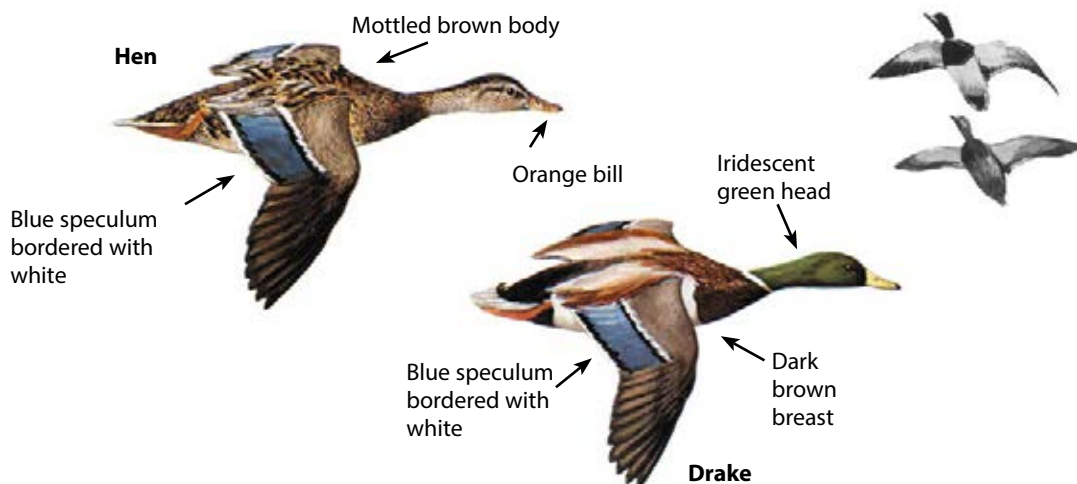
This is an incomplete listing of falconry regulations. For a complete listing, see Rule 3 CSR 10-9.442 in the *Wildlife Code of Missouri*, which can be found online at [www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp](http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp).



# Duck Identification

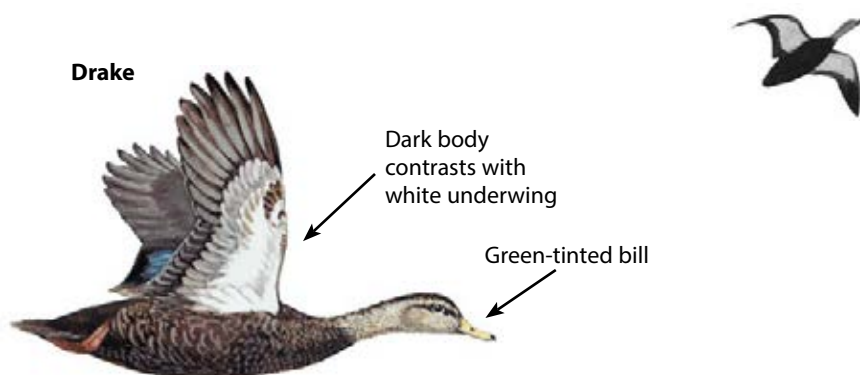
## Mallard

Mallards, or “greenheads,” are Missouri’s most common duck. Hens have a loud *quack*; drakes give a lower-pitched *kwek-kwek*.



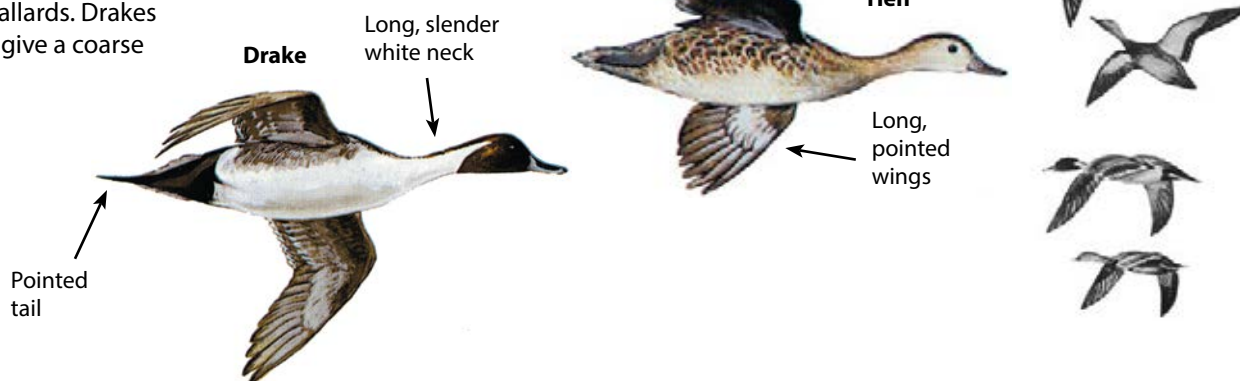
## American Black Duck

Male and female black ducks are similar in size, flight, voice, and coloration to mallard hens. To avoid confusion, look for the white underwing and the green-tinted bill.



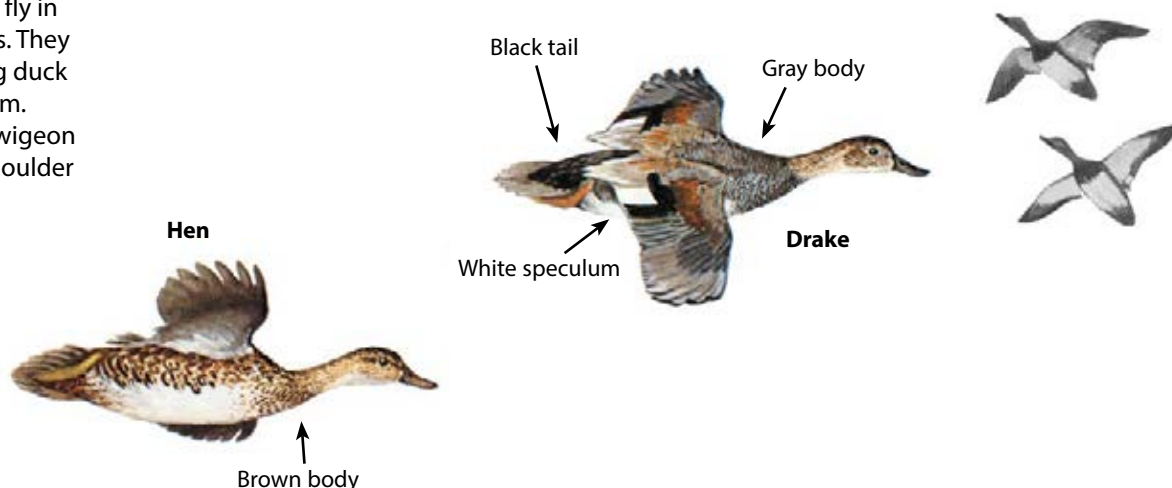
## Northern Pintail

These slender ducks fly fast and often zigzag from great heights before leveling off to land. They may be seen in flocks with mallards. Drakes whistle; hens give a coarse *quack*.



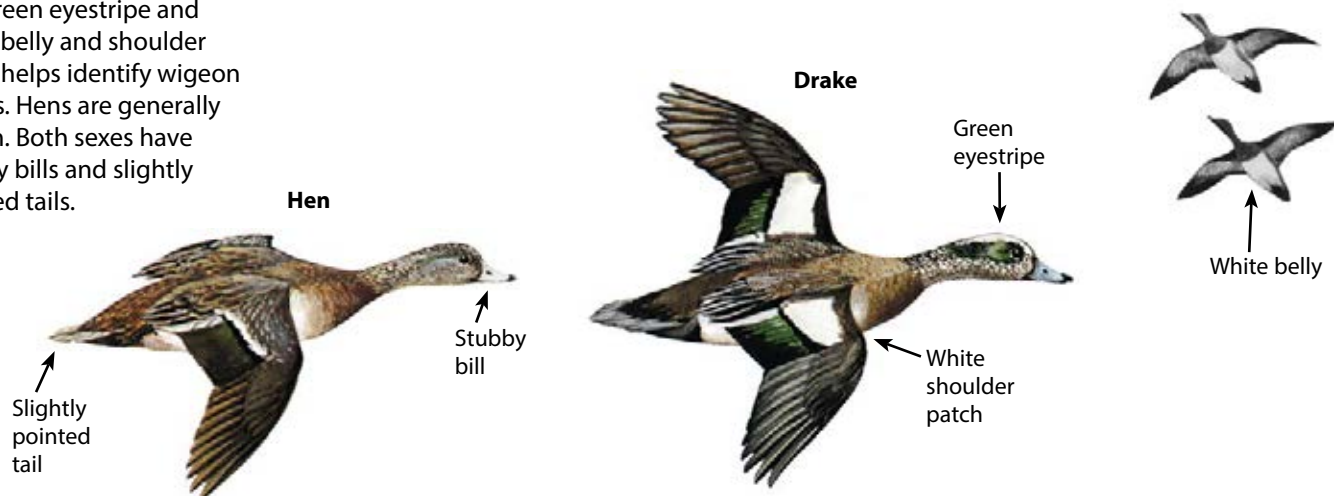
## Gadwall

These early migrants fly in small, compact flocks. They are the only dabbling duck with a white speculum. Note, however, that wigeon drakes have white shoulder patches.



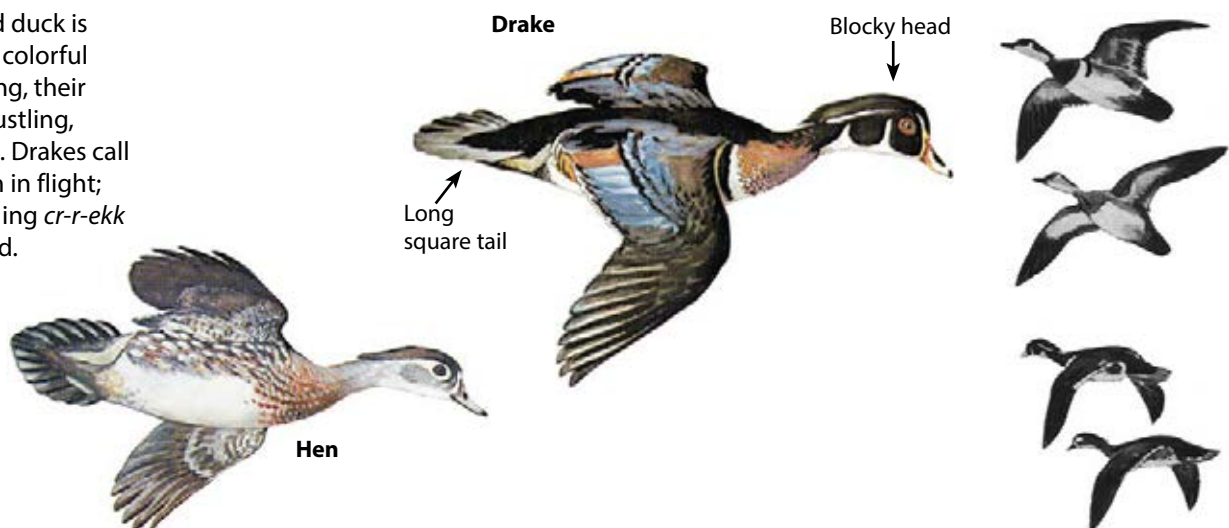
## American Wigeon

The green eyestripe and white belly and shoulder patch helps identify wigeon drakes. Hens are generally brown. Both sexes have stubby bills and slightly pointed tails.



## Wood Duck

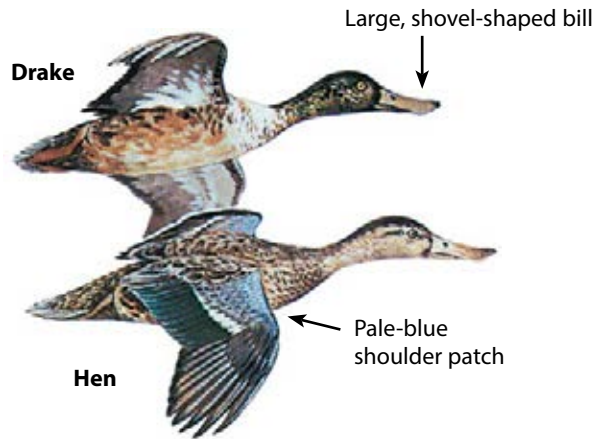
The drake wood duck is Missouri's most colorful duck. While flying, their wings make a rustling, swishing sound. Drakes call *hoo-w-ett*, often in flight; hens give a wailing *cr-r-ekk* when frightened.



# Duck Identification

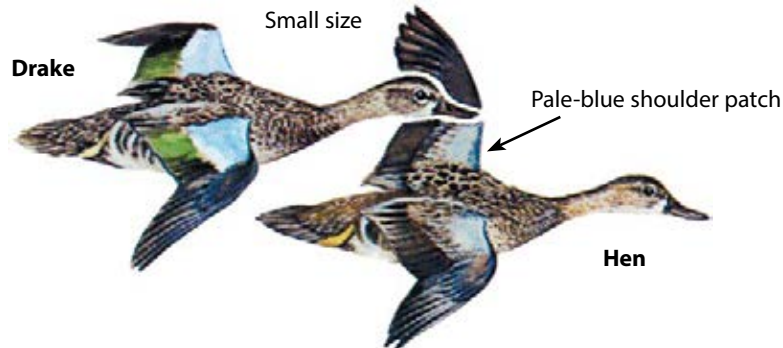
## Northern Shoveler

The large spoon-shaped bill helps identify this duck. Shovelers often form mixed flocks with blue-winged teal. Both species have pale-blue shoulder patches, but shovelers are larger.



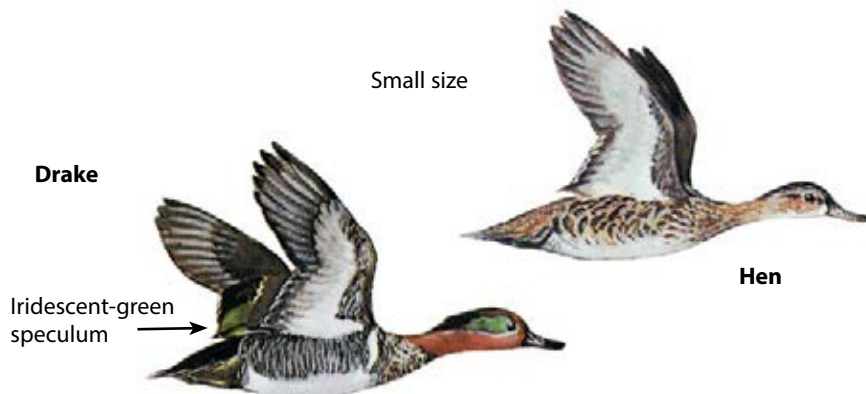
## Blue-Winged Teal

These swift-flying early migrants are normally far south of Missouri by the time the regular waterfowl season opens. However, a few stragglers may show up throughout the fall.



## Green-Winged Teal

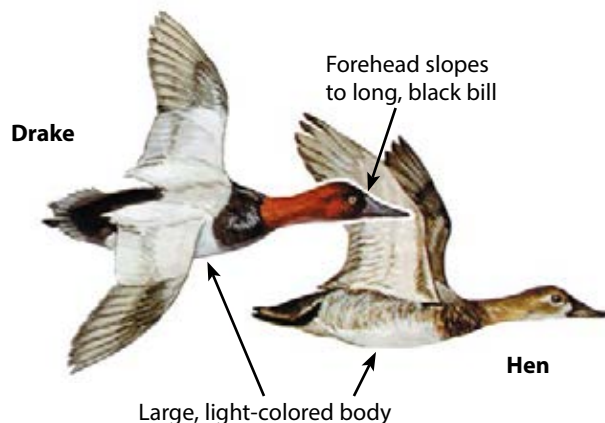
Green-winged teal are North America's smallest duck. Their size, rapid flight, and iridescent-green wing patches help identify these ducks.





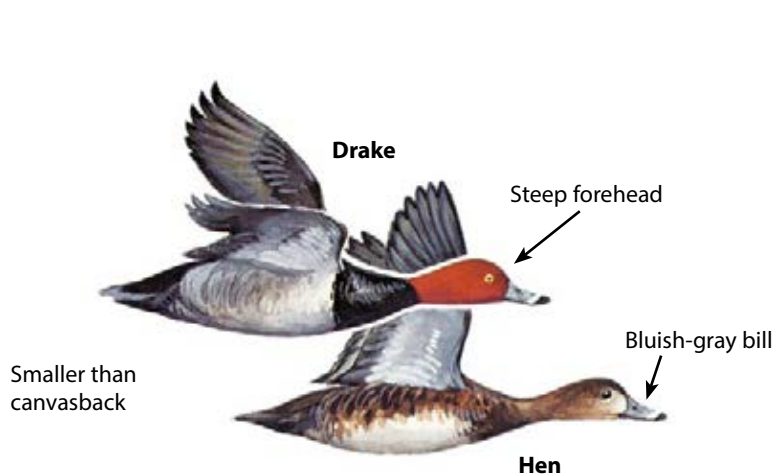
## Canvasback

Canvasbacks have a rapid and noisy wingbeat. The bill, lighter coloration, and large size distinguish this duck from the similar-looking redhead.



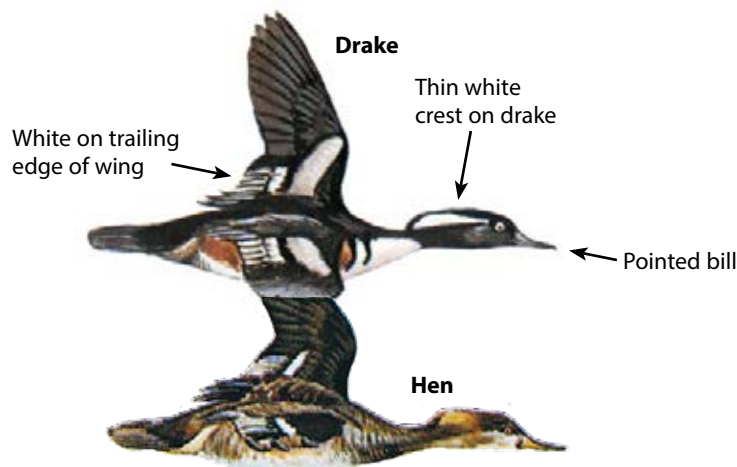
## Redhead

Redheads are most often confused with canvasbacks, but in flight they also look similar to ringnecks and scaup. Note the steep forehead and short, bluish-gray bill.



## Hooded Merganser

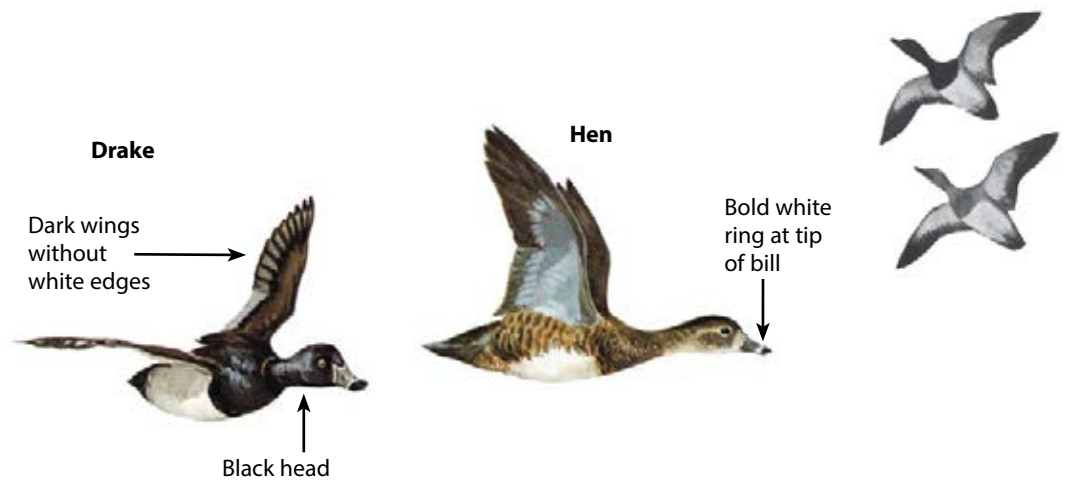
The rapid wing strokes of hooded mergansers give the impression of great speed. Mergansers are often seen in pairs or very small flocks.



# Duck Identification

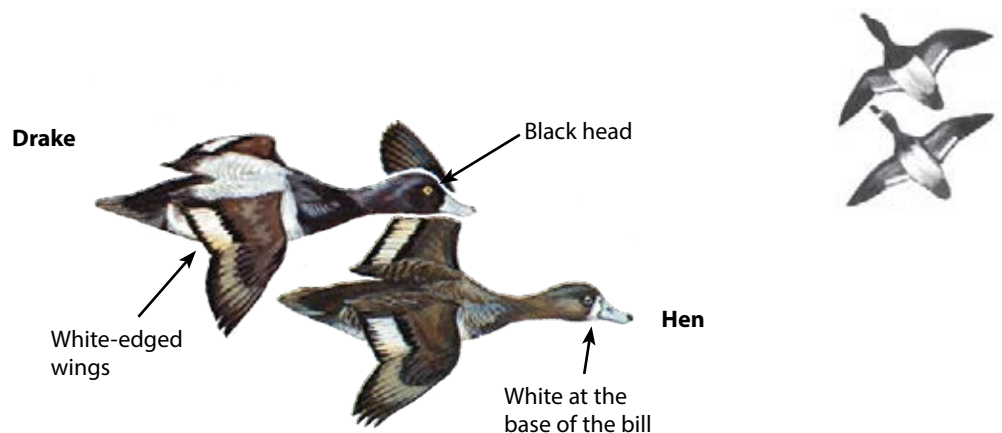
## Ring-Necked Duck (Ringneck)

This diver can be confused with scaup and redheads. In flight, the dark wings of ringnecks are different from the white-edged wings of scaup. The bold white ring at the tip of the bill is usually conspicuous.



## Greater and Lesser Scaup

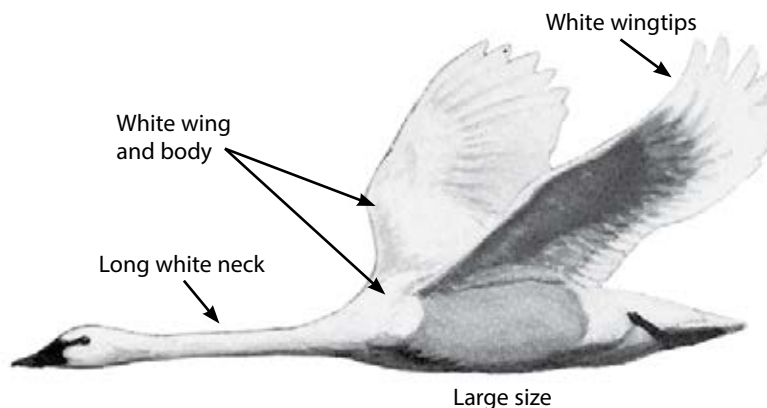
Except for the wings, greater and lesser scaup appear almost identical in the field. The white band near the trailing edges of the wings runs almost to the wing tip in greater scaup, but only halfway in the lesser. Do not confuse scaup with the similar-looking ring-necked duck.



## Trumpeter Swan

**Trumpeter swans are protected by federal and state laws and may not be shot!**

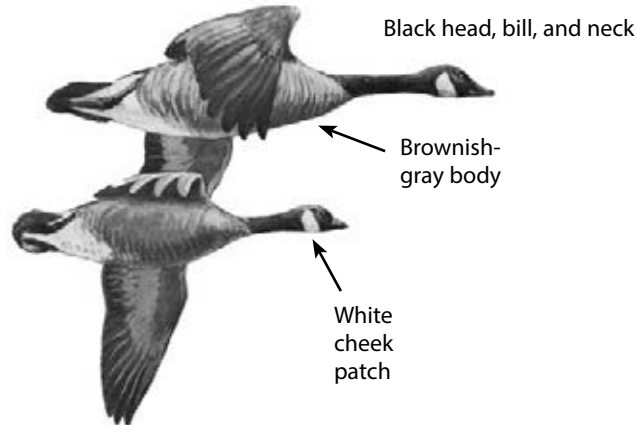
Trumpeter swans are twice the size of Canada geese and four times the size of snow geese. **Note:** Young swans are gray.



# Goose Identification

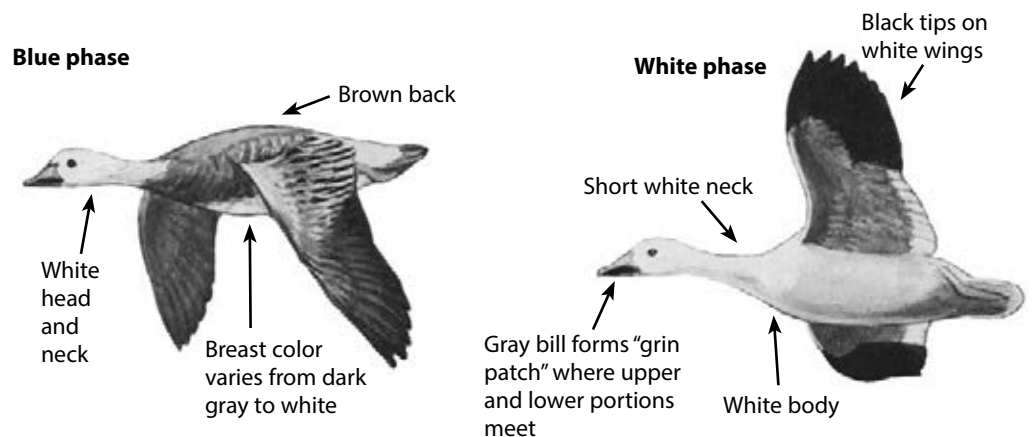
## Canada Goose

Canada geese are often called “honkers” because of their distinctive call. The black head and neck, white cheek patch, and brownish-gray body are distinctive.



## Snow Goose and Ross's Goose

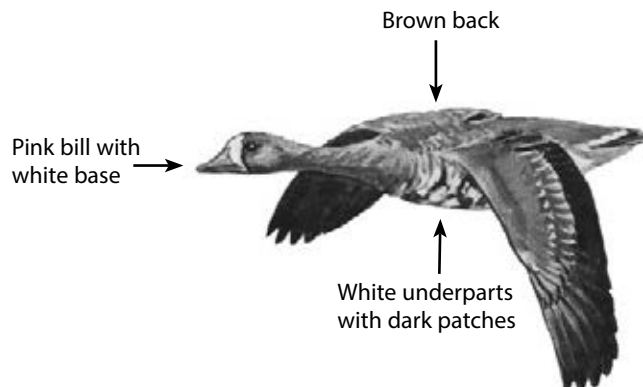
Snow geese have two color phases: white and blue. Ross's geese appear nearly identical to snow geese, but have a shorter bill with no “grin patch.”



## White-Fronted Goose

White-fronted geese, or “speckle-bellies,” fly in V-shaped flocks. Their call is a laugh-like series of high-pitched paired notes.

**Note:** Immature white-fronted geese and immature snow geese appear similar. Immature white-fronted geese have pink bills, orange legs, and black tails. Immature snow geese have gray bills, gray legs, and white tails.





# Managed Waterfowl-Hunting Areas



The Conservation Department offers managed waterfowl hunting on 15 conservation areas (see Page 26). Some of these areas have permanent blinds, and others provide opportunities for hunters to wade in or hunt from boat blinds. Most have ADA blinds. There are four ways to obtain a hunting spot on a managed waterfowl-hunting area:

- Missouri residents may apply online for a reservation at 12 conservation areas. A reservation guarantees successful applicants a place to hunt on a specific day at a specific area. Applications are accepted from Sept. 1–18.
- Missouri residents may use the Quick Draw system at Eagle Bluffs, Grand Pass, and Otter Slough. Quick Draw provides hunters the option of applying twice a week, once for hunts occurring Friday through Monday, and once for hunts occurring Tuesday through Thursday. Quick Draw begins accepting applications a week before the opening of waterfowl season. Hunters who apply and are drawn using Quick Draw receive a guaranteed position in line for their hunt. To learn more, visit [mdc.mo.gov/quickdraw](http://mdc.mo.gov/quickdraw).

- Residents and nonresidents can hunt with a reservation holder or a successful Quick Draw applicant. Hunting parties are limited to four people.
- Residents and nonresidents can arrive at a managed waterfowl-hunting area and draw for a spot in the morning drawing or “poor line.” Twenty-five percent of the positions at Quick Draw areas and 50 percent of the positions at the other 12 areas are set aside for daily poor-line drawings. Many positions from reservation holders and Quick Draw hunters who do not show up are also included in the poor-line drawing.

Hunters may reserve ADA blinds using the Quick Draw system at Eagle Bluffs, Grand Pass, and Otter Slough. On all other areas, hunters must call the area or the area’s designated ADA phone number (see Page 26) to reserve an ADA blind. When arriving at an area to claim a blind, hunters must show a Hunting Method Exemption or Department of Revenue hangtag. For additional information, visit [short.mdc.mo.gov/Z4e](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/Z4e).

## How the Morning Drawing Works

Hunters who are using the poor line to draw for a hunting spot will use the “Every Member Draws” (EMD) procedure at seven managed waterfowl-hunting areas (see Page 26). At EMD areas, every person in a hunting party draws a numbered block or “pill.” The party uses its lowest number to determine its place in line to pick a hunting spot. On highly used waterfowl areas, the EMD system puts more hunters in the marsh by creating an incentive for hunters to team up with family and friends instead of hunting alone.

Areas not using EMD use the “One Member Draws” (OMD) procedure. At OMD areas, one member from each hunting party pulls a pill to determine the hunting party’s place in line. Areas that use OMD generally turn fewer hunters away and would not benefit from EMD.

After the pills are drawn, the lowest number gets first choice of the available hunting locations, followed by the second-lowest number, and so on until all available hunting spots are assigned. On some days, there may be more hunters than hunting locations, so it’s possible that not everyone in the poor line will get a spot to hunt.

## Rules of the Morning Drawing

- Hunting party members may participate in only one morning drawing on the same day. Participation includes having another member submit a Daily Waterfowl Hunting Tag for you in your absence.
- You must be properly licensed prior to participating in the morning drawing or Quick Draw.
- A maximum party size of four is allowed on draw areas (except during youth season). All observers and hunting or non-hunting youth count toward the maximum party size of four.
- You must be a Missouri resident to apply for reservations or use Quick Draw. You do not need to be a Missouri resident to reserve an ADA blind.
- Parties who have reserved an ADA blind are not eligible to enter the in-person drawing unless they first forfeit their ADA blind reservation for that day.
- You may not be registered for more than one location or possess more than one valid Daily Waterfowl Hunting Tag at the same time. You must check out prior to registering for another unit or area.
- All members of your party must hunt over the same decoy spread. You may not split your party into smaller parties or combine with other parties after the drawing.
- Your party must hunt in its assigned location, as designated during the morning drawing. Hunting in an unassigned location is prohibited.

## Additional Information About the Morning Drawing

- Hunting spots will be allocated according to the order of the number selected either by electronic drawing or in-person drawing.
- Reservation and Quick Draw holders must check in before official draw time, and adult hunters must present a form of identification other than their hunting license.
- All party members must properly register prior to draw time. Parties not registered before draw time will not be allowed to enter the drawing. If hunting spots remain after the drawing, they may be allocated to other hunters.
- On areas with Every Member Draws, if you draw a pill for an absent member and that member is not in the room when his or her number is called to select a hunting spot, then your entire party forfeits its privilege to hunt the area through the managed-hunt system that day.

For additional information on morning draw procedures, visit [short.mdc.mo.gov/Z4n](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/Z4n).

## Managed Waterfowl-Hunting Program Evaluation

The Conservation Department continues to evaluate Quick Draw, Every Member Draws, and other elements of the waterfowl-hunting program. A key part of the evaluation is hunter input about changes that could be made to improve hunter experiences on Department-managed wetland areas. Input has been gathered through opinion surveys, speaking with hunters at morning drawings, and virtual public meetings. Proposed changes to the waterfowl-hunting program will be posted in morning draw rooms for hunters to review during the 2018–2019 waterfowl hunting seasons. The changes will be finalized before the 2019–2020 seasons.

## Online Hunting Reports

For hunting reports that are updated twice a week, results of waterfowl counts conducted every other week, and a wealth of other information about waterfowl hunting in Missouri, go to [short.mdc.mo.gov/ZoJ](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/ZoJ).

# Managed Waterfowl-Hunting Areas

	Location	Quick Draw	Every Member Draws	One Member Draws	Wade-and-Shoot Hunting	Temporary Blinds Only	Water Blinds	Field Hunting for Geese	Number of ADA Blinds	To Reserve an ADA Blind	Boats	Boats for Blinds Only	Boat Launches	Camping	Closing Time
1	<b>B.K. Leach</b> — 4,307 acres Lincoln County 573-898-5905			✓	✓		✓		1	636-441-4554	✓				1 p.m.
2	<b>Bob Brown</b> — 3,307 acres Holt County 660-446-2694		✓		✓	✓			1	816-271-3100			✓	✓	1 p.m.
3	<b>Columbia Bottom</b> — 4,318 acres St. Louis County 314-877-6014		✓		✓	✓			1	314-877-6014			✓		1 p.m.
4	<b>Duck Creek</b> — 6,318 acres Bollinger, Stoddard, and Wayne counties 573-222-3337			✓	✓		✓		1	573-222-3337		✓	✓	✓	1 p.m. closure in designated areas
5	<b>Eagle Bluffs</b> — 4,428 acres Boone County 573-445-3882	✓	✓		✓	✓			2	Use Quick Draw			✓		1 p.m.
6	<b>Fountain Grove</b> — 7,983 acres Linn and Livingston counties 660-938-4124			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	660-646-6122		✓	✓	✓	1 p.m. closure in designated areas
7	<b>Four Rivers</b> — 13,929 acres Vernon and Bates counties 417-395-2341			✓	✓	✓		✓	1	417-395-2341			✓	✓	Sunset
8	<b>Grand Pass</b> — 5,301 acres Saline County 660-595-2444	✓	✓		✓	✓			1	Use Quick Draw			✓	✓	1 p.m.
9	<b>Marais Temps Clair</b> — 918 acres St. Charles County 573-898-5905		✓		✓				1	314-877-6014					1 p.m. closure; waterfowl hunting Fri.–Mon. only
10	<b>Montrose</b> — 2,750 acres Henry County 660-693-4666			✓	✓		✓		1	660-693-4666			✓	✓	Sunset
11	<b>Nodaway Valley</b> — 3,881 acres Holt and Andrew counties 660-446-3371			✓	✓		✓		1	816-271-3100			✓	✓	1 p.m. (west side) Sunset (east side)
12	<b>Otter Slough</b> — 4,866 acres Stoddard County 573-624-5821	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	1	Use Quick Draw		✓	✓	✓	1 p.m.
13	<b>Schell-Osage</b> — 8,633 acres Vernon and St. Clair counties 417-432-3414	Schell-Osage will be closed to waterfowl hunting during the 2018–2019 season due to activities associated with renovation of the wetland pools and Schell Lake.													
14	<b>Ted Shanks</b> — 6,705 acres Pike County 573-248-2530			✓	✓		✓		2	573-248-2530	✓		✓	✓	1 p.m.
15	<b>Ten Mile Pond</b> — 3,755 acres Mississippi County 573-649-2770		✓		✓	✓		✓	0	N/A			✓		Sunset

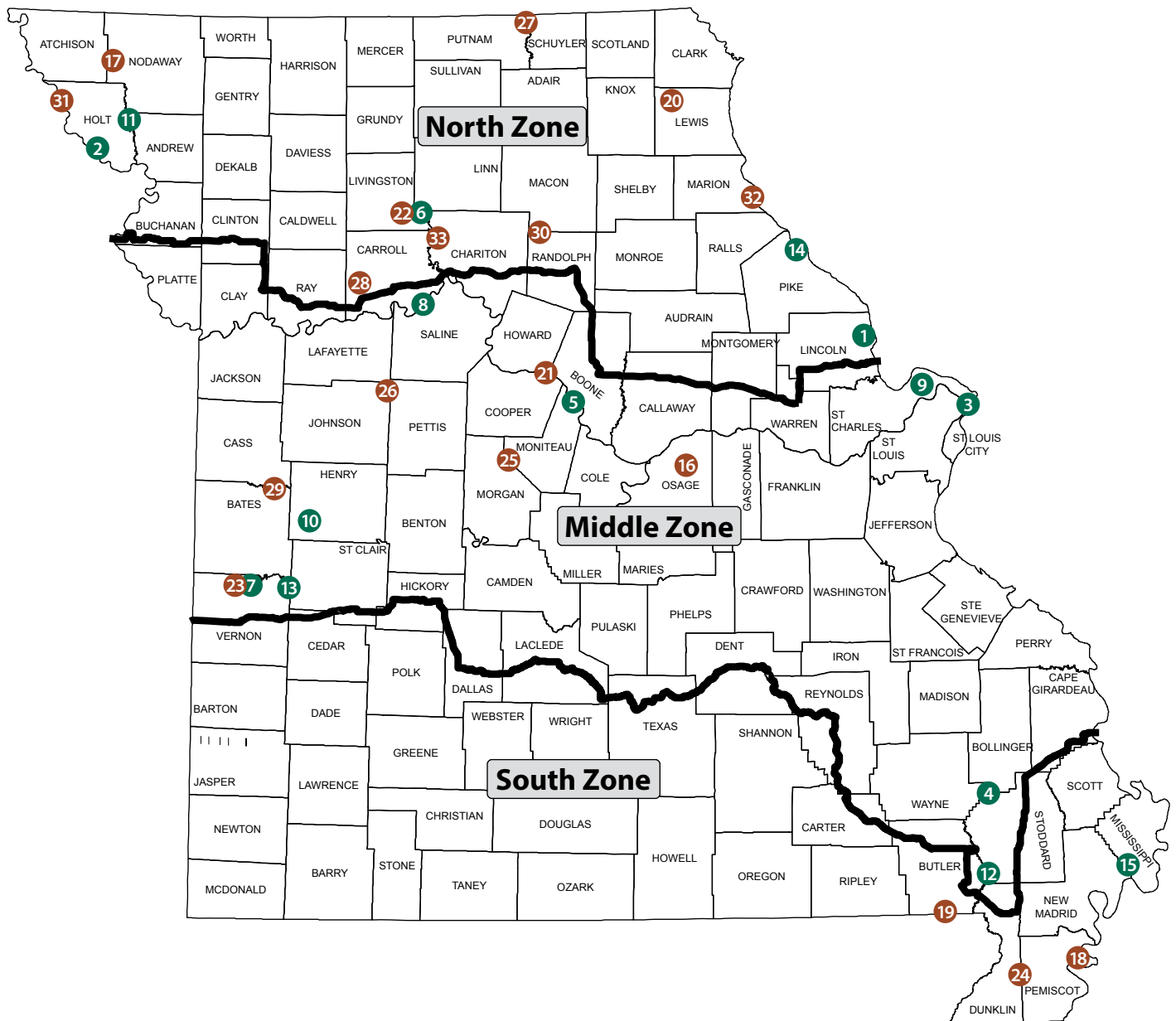


## Other Waterfowl-Hunting Areas

The following Department areas offer waterfowl hunting in addition to the managed waterfowl-hunting areas. Other opportunities can be found on Missouri's rivers, streams, and reservoirs. Please note:

- Some of the areas listed have special regulations for waterfowl hunting.
  - At many of these areas, waterfowl habitat is dependent on precipitation or river levels.
  - You are encouraged to scout the area before going out to hunt.
- For area-specific regulations, visit **[mdc.mo.gov/atlas](https://mdc.mo.gov/atlas)**.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>16</b> Ben Branch Lake CA                       | <b>26</b> Perry (Ralph and Martha) Memorial CA   |
| <b>17</b> Bilby Ranch Lake CA                      | <b>27</b> Rebel's Cove CA                        |
| <b>18</b> Black Island CA                          | <b>28</b> Schifferdecker (W.L.) Memorial         |
| <b>19</b> Coon Island CA                           | <b>29</b> Settle's Ford CA                       |
| <b>20</b> Deer Ridge CA                            | <b>30</b> Thomas Hill Reservoir CA               |
| <b>21</b> Diana Bend CA                            | <b>31</b> Thurnau (H.F.) CA                      |
| <b>22</b> Fountain Grove CA (south of Grand River) | <b>32</b> Upper Mississippi CA (Bay Island Unit) |
| <b>23</b> Four Rivers (Units 3 and 4)              | <b>33</b> Yellow Creek CA                        |
| <b>24</b> Little River CA                          |  |
| <b>25</b> Manito Lake CA                           |  |



# Wildlife Code of Missouri

## Chapter 7

### 3 CSR 10-7.440 Migratory Game Birds and Waterfowl: Seasons, Limits

(1) Migratory game birds and waterfowl may be taken, possessed, transported, and stored only as provided in federal regulations and this Code.

(2) The head or one (1) fully feathered wing must remain attached to all waterfowl while being transported from the field to one's home or a commercial preservation facility.

(3) Seasons and limits are as follows:

(A) Mourning doves, Eurasian collared-doves, and white-winged doves may be taken from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset from September 1 through November 29. Limits: fifteen (15) doves daily in the aggregate; forty-five (45) in possession;

(B) Sora and Virginia rails may be taken from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset from September 1 through November 9. Limits: twenty-five (25) rails daily in the aggregate; seventy-five (75) in possession;

(C) Woodcock may be taken from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset from October 15 through November 28. Limits: three (3) woodcock daily; nine (9) in possession;

(D) Wilson's snipe may be taken from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset from September 1 through December 16. Limits: eight (8) snipe daily; twenty-four (24) in possession;

(E) Blue-winged, green-winged, and cinnamon teal may be taken from sunrise to sunset from September 8 through September 23. Limits: six (6) teal daily in the aggregate; eighteen (18) in possession;

(F) Waterfowl Zones: The North Zone shall be that portion of Missouri north of a line running west from the Illinois border at Lock and Dam 25; west on Lincoln County Hwy. N to Mo. Hwy. 79; south on Mo. Hwy. 79

**Note:** According to rule 3 CSR 10-5.216 of the *Wildlife Code of Missouri*, if you have been convicted of multiple or major violations of the Code in the past five years, the Conservation Commission may consider suspending or revoking your hunting, trapping, and/or fishing privileges regardless of any previous court action. The point system the Commission uses to assess Code violations is explained at [short.mdc.mo.gov/ZkV](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/ZkV).

to Mo. Hwy. 47; west on Mo. Hwy. 47 to I-70; west on I-70 to U.S. Hwy. 63; north on U.S. Hwy. 63 to U.S. Hwy. 24; west on U.S. Hwy. 24 to Mo. Hwy. 10; west on Mo. Hwy. 10 to U.S. Hwy. 69; north on U.S. Hwy. 69 to Mo. Hwy. 116; west on Mo. Hwy. 116 to U.S. Hwy. 59; south on U.S. Hwy. 59 to the Kansas border. The South Zone shall be that portion of Missouri south of a line running west from the Illinois border on Mo. Hwy. 74 to Mo. Hwy. 25; south on Mo. Hwy. 25 to U.S. Hwy. 62; west on U.S. Hwy. 62 to Mo. Hwy. 53; north on Mo. Hwy. 53 to Mo. Hwy. 51; north on Mo. Hwy. 51 to U.S. Hwy. 60; west on U.S. Hwy. 60 to Mo. Hwy. 21; north on Mo. Hwy. 21 to Mo. Hwy. 72; west on Mo. Hwy. 72 to Mo. Hwy. 32; west on Mo. Hwy. 32 to U.S. Hwy. 65; north on U.S. Hwy. 65 to U.S. Hwy. 54; west on U.S. Hwy. 54 to the Kansas border. The Middle Zone shall be the remainder of Missouri not included in other zones;

(G) During years when the federal framework prescribes a sixty- (60-) day duck season, the North Zone season will open on the first Saturday in November, the Middle Zone season will open on the Saturday nearest November 6 for seven (7) days, close for five (5) days, and then re-open for fifty-three (53) days, the South Zone season will open on Thanksgiving Day for four (4) days, close as long as necessary for the second segment to remain open until the last Sunday in January (as late as the federal framework allows). During years when the federal framework prescribes a forty-five- (45-) day duck season, the North Zone season will open on the second Saturday in November, the Middle Zone season will open on the Saturday nearest November 15, and

the South Zone season will open on the Saturday nearest December 10, close December 20–25, and then re-open on December 26 through the last Sunday in January (as late as the federal framework allows). During years when the federal framework prescribes a thirty- (30-) day duck season, the North Zone season will open on the Saturday nearest November 14, the Middle Zone season will open on the Saturday nearest November 19, and the South Zone season will open on the Saturday nearest December 15, close December 19–25, and then re-open on December 26 through the Sunday nearest January 20 (as late as the federal framework allows). A person possessing the appropriate state and federal permits may take ducks in accordance to the season lengths, bag limits, and species-specific opening and closing dates established annually by the Conservation Commission;

(H) Ducks and coots may be taken from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset as follows:

1. Ducks and coots may be taken from November 3 through January 1 in the North Zone; from November 3 through November 9 and November 15 through January 6 in the Middle Zone; and from November 22 through November 25 and December 3 through January 27 in the South Zone; and

2. Duck and coot limits are as follows: The daily bag limit of ducks is six (6) and may include no more than four (4) mallards (no more than two (2) of which may be female), three (3) wood ducks, two (2) redheads, two (2)

hooded mergansers, three (3) scaup, two (2) pintails, one (1) mottled duck, two (2) canvasback, and two (2) black ducks. The possession limit is eighteen (18), including no more than twelve (12) mallards (no more than six (6) of which may be female), nine (9) wood ducks, six (6) redheads, six (6) hooded mergansers, nine (9) scaup, six (6) pintails, three (3) mottled ducks, six (6) canvasbacks, and six (6) black ducks. The daily limit of coots is fifteen (15) and the possession limit for coots is forty-five (45);

(I) Geese may be taken from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset as follows:

1. Blue, snow, and Ross's geese may be taken from November 11 through February 6 statewide;
2. White-fronted geese may be taken from November 11 through February 6 statewide;
3. Canada geese and brant may be taken from October 6 through October 14 and from November 11 through February 6 statewide; and
4. Goose limits are as follows: The daily bag limit is three (3) Canada geese and brant in aggregate, twenty (20) blue, snow, or Ross's geese, and two (2) white-fronted geese, statewide. The possession limit is nine (9) Canada geese and brant in aggregate and six (6) white-fronted geese. There is no possession limit for blue, snow, and Ross's geese;

(J) Ducks, geese, brant, and coots may be taken by youth hunters fifteen (15) years of age or younger from October 20 through October 21 in the North Zone; from October 20 through October 21 in the Middle Zone; and from November 17 through November 18 in the South Zone. The daily and possession limits for ducks, geese, and coots are the same as during the

regular duck, goose, and coot hunting seasons. Any person fifteen (15) years or younger may participate in the youth waterfowl hunting days without permit provided they are in the immediate presence of an adult eighteen (18) years of age or older. If the youth hunter does not possess a hunter education certificate card, the adult must be properly licensed (i.e., must meet any permit requirements that allow small game hunting) and have in his/her possession a valid hunter education certificate card unless they were born before January 1, 1967. The adult may not hunt ducks but may participate in other seasons that are open on the special youth days;

(K) Shells possessed or used while hunting waterfowl and coots statewide, and for other wildlife as designated by posting on public areas, must be loaded with material approved as nontoxic by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service;

(L) Persons who possess a valid Conservation Order permit may chase, pursue, and take blue, snow, and Ross's geese from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset from February 7 through April 30. Any other regulation notwithstanding, methods for the taking of blue, snow, and Ross's geese include using shotguns capable of holding more than three (3) shells, and with the use or aid of recorded or electrically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds. An exception to the above permit requirement includes any person fifteen (15) years of age or younger, provided either 1) s/he is in the immediate presence of a properly licensed adult (must possess a Conservation Order permit) who is eighteen (18) years of age or older and has in his/her possession a valid hunter education certificate card, or was born before January 1, 1967, or 2) s/he possesses a valid hunter education certificate card. A daily bag

limit will not be in effect February 7 through April 30 (See 3 CSR 10-5.436 and 3 CSR 10-5.567 for Conservation Order Permit requirements); and

(M) Migratory game birds, to include only doves, ducks, mergansers, and coots, may be taken by hunters with birds of prey as follows (See 3 CSR 10-9.442 for additional provisions about falconry including season lengths and limits for wildlife other than migratory game birds. See 3 CSR 10-9.440 for falconry permit requirements):

1. Doves may be taken from September 1 through December 16 from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset. Daily limit: three (3) doves; possession limit: nine (9) doves, except that any waterfowl taken by falconers must be included within these limits; and
2. Ducks, mergansers, and coots may be taken from sunrise to sunset from September 8 through September 23 statewide, and from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset as follows: in the North Zone, October 20 through October 21, November 3 through January 1 and February 10 through March 10; in the Middle Zone, October 20 through October 21, November 3 through November 9, November 15 through January 6, and February 10 through March 10; and, in the South Zone, November 17 through November 18, November 22 through November 25, and December 3 through January 27, and February 10 through March 10. Daily limit: three (3) birds singly or in the aggregate, including doves; possession limit: nine (9) birds singly or in the aggregate, including doves.

## Chapter 11

### 3 CSR 10-11.155 Decoys and Blinds

(1) Decoys and blinds are permitted but must be disassembled and removed



# Wildlife Code of Missouri

daily, except as otherwise provided in this chapter. Blinds may not be constructed on-site from woody vegetation except for willows (*Salicaceae* spp.).

(A) The current Upper Mississippi Conservation Area Waterfowl Hunting Information booklet is hereby incorporated in this Code by reference. This booklet is published annually in March by, and a printed copy can be obtained from, the Missouri Department of Conservation, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180 and is also available online at [www.missouriconservation.org](http://www.missouriconservation.org). This rule does not incorporate any subsequent amendments or additions.

(B) On those portions of Upper Mississippi Conservation Area designated as restricted waterfowl hunting areas, blind sites shall be designated and allotted through a system of registration and drawing established by the department. Blinds must be constructed in accordance with specifications, dates, and other requirements as described in the Upper Mississippi Conservation Area Waterfowl Hunting Information booklet. Waterfowl may be taken only from a designated blind except that hunters may retrieve dead birds and pursue and shoot downed cripples. This rule does not apply during the early teal season and the early Canada goose season. On portions of the area designated as open, blinds may be constructed without site restrictions. Blinds or blind sites on both restricted and open portions of the area may not be locked, transferred, rented, or sold. Boats shall not be left overnight at blind sites. Blinds unoccupied at one-half (1/2) hour before legal shooting time may be used by the first hunter to arrive.

### 3 CSR 10-11.180 Hunting, General Provisions and Seasons

(1) Hunting is permitted on department areas, except as further restricted by signs, area brochures, or this chapter. Unless otherwise provided in this

chapter, statewide permits, seasons, methods, and limits apply. A valid area daily hunting tag may be required in addition to statewide permits.

(2) Hunting may be further restricted on designated portions of department areas which include, but are not limited to, refuges, wildlife sanctuaries, shooting ranges, residences, work areas, campgrounds, and other public use or service areas.

(8) Use or possession of lead shot is prohibited for hunting on the following department areas:

(A) Black Island Conservation Area

(B) Bob Brown Conservation Area

(C) Columbia Bottom Conservation Area

(D) Cooley Lake Conservation Area

(E) Coon Island Conservation Area

(F) Duck Creek Conservation Area

(G) Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area

(H) Fountain Grove Conservation Area

(I) Four Rivers Conservation Area (August A. Busch, Jr. Memorial Wetlands at)

(J) Grand Pass Conservation Area

(K) B. K. Leach Memorial Conservation Area

(L) Little Bean Marsh Conservation Area

(M) Little River Conservation Area

(N) Marais Temps Clair Conservation Area

(O) Montrose Conservation Area

(P) Nodaway Valley Conservation Area

(Q) Otter Slough Conservation Area

(R) Schell-Osage Conservation Area

(S) Settle's Ford Conservation Area

(T) Ted Shanks Conservation Area

(U) Ten Mile Pond Conservation Area

(15) Hunting of wildlife other than waterfowl is prohibited, except in

designated areas, from October 15 through the prescribed waterfowl season on the following department areas:

(A) Bob Brown Conservation Area

(B) Columbia Bottom Conservation Area

(C) Coon Island Conservation Area

(D) Duck Creek Conservation Area

(E) Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area

(F) Fountain Grove Conservation Area

(G) Grand Pass Conservation Area

(H) Marais Temps Clair Conservation Area

(I) Montrose Conservation Area

(J) Nodaway Valley Conservation Area

(K) Otter Slough Conservation Area

(L) Schell-Osage Conservation Area

(M) Ted Shanks Conservation Area

(N) Ten Mile Pond Conservation Area

(16) On the portion of Nodaway River bordered by the portion of Nodaway Valley Conservation Area which has been designated a waterfowl refuge, all hunting is prohibited from October 15 through the end of the prescribed waterfowl season.

(17) On B. K. Leach Memorial Conservation Area, hunting of wildlife other than waterfowl is allowed during prescribed seasons, except that from October 15 through the end of the prescribed waterfowl season other wildlife may be hunted only by archery methods and only in designated areas.

### 3 CSR 10-11.186 Waterfowl Hunting

(1) Waterfowl hunting is permitted on department areas except as further restricted in this chapter. Statewide permits, seasons, methods, and limits apply unless otherwise provided in this chapter.

(2) Waterfowl hunting is prohibited on the following department areas:

(A) Lake Girardeau Conservation Area

(B) Lake Paho Conservation Area

(3) Waterfowl hunting is prohibited after 1:00 p.m. on designated portions of the following department areas:

(A) Amarugia Highlands Conservation Area

(B) Bob Brown Conservation Area

(C) Columbia Bottom Conservation Area

(D) Coon Island Conservation Area

(E) Duck Creek Conservation Area

(F) Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area

(G) Fountain Grove Conservation Area

(H) Grand Pass Conservation Area

(I) King Lake Conservation Area

(J) B. K. Leach Memorial Conservation Area

(K) Little River Conservation Area

(L) Lone Jack Lake Conservation Area

(M) Nodaway Valley Conservation Area

(N) Otter Slough Conservation Area

(O) James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area

(P) Pony Express Conservation Area

(Q) Schell-Osage Conservation Area

(R) Ted Shanks Conservation Area

(S) Ten Mile Pond Conservation Area

(T) Yellow Creek Conservation Area

(4) Waterfowl may be taken on the department areas listed below only by holders of a valid area Daily Waterfowl Hunting Tag and only from a blind or in a designated area, except that hunters may retrieve dead birds and pursue and shoot downed cripples outside the designated area. Waterfowl hunters must check out immediately after the close of their hunting trip and prior to processing birds by accurate completion and return of the Daily Waterfowl Hunting Tag to designated locations.

These department areas are closed to waterfowl hunting on December 25. Only authorized persons are allowed within the waterfowl shooting areas during the waterfowl hunting season. Portions of these department areas may be open to fishing during all or part of the waterfowl season.

(A) Bob Brown Conservation Area

(B) Columbia Bottom Conservation Area

(C) Duck Creek Conservation Area

(D) Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area

(E) Fountain Grove Conservation Area

(F) Four Rivers Conservation Area (August A. Busch, Jr. Memorial Wetlands at) (Designated waterfowl hunting areas of Units 1 and 2)

(G) Grand Pass Conservation Area

(H) B. K. Leach Memorial Conservation Area

(I) Marais Temps Clair Conservation Area

(J) Montrose Conservation Area

(K) Nodaway Valley Conservation Area

(L) Otter Slough Conservation Area

(M) Schell-Osage Conservation Area

(N) Ted Shanks Conservation Area

(O) Ten Mile Pond Conservation Area

(5) On Thomas Hill Reservoir, waterfowl hunting is prohibited on the lands and waters of the main arm between Highway T and county road 462, three and one-half (3 1/2) miles north of Highway T from October 15 through the close of the waterfowl season.

(6) On Coon Island Conservation Area, Nodaway Valley Conservation Area (Open Zone portion), Settle's Ford Conservation Area, and Four Rivers Conservation Area (Units 3 and 4), waterfowl hunters must self-register at designated hunter record boxes prior to hunting by completing a Daily Waterfowl Hunting Tag and accurately report harvest and check out immediately after the hunt.

(7) On Little River Conservation Area, waterfowl hunting is permitted only on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays in designated pools by holders of a valid area daily hunting tag.

(8) On James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area, waterfowl may be hunted by reservation only by holders of a valid area daily hunting tag on designated days and only in designated areas, except that hunters may retrieve dead birds and shoot downed cripples outside designated areas.

(9) On Marais Temps Clair Conservation Area.

(A) Teal hunting is allowed from sunrise to sunset during the prescribed teal hunting season.

(B) Goose hunting is allowed from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset during those portions of the prescribed goose hunting season that occurs outside of the prescribed duck hunting season, and from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset during the prescribed conservation order for light geese.

(C) Waterfowl hunting is allowed only until 1:00 p.m. and only on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday during the prescribed duck hunting season.

(10) On August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area and Cooley Lake Conservation Area, waterfowl may be hunted only during managed waterfowl hunts.

(11) On Little Bean Marsh Conservation Area, waterfowl may be hunted only in designated areas and only during the regular waterfowl hunting seasons.

# Federal Regulations Summary

In addition to state regulations, the following federal rules apply to the hunting of migratory game birds. **Note:** This is only a summary. For more information, visit [ecfr.gov](http://ecfr.gov), where a complete version of Title 50, Part 20 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* can be found. When state law is different from federal law, hunters must follow the more restrictive law.

## No person shall take migratory game birds:

- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fish hook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.
- With a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler that is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- From or by means, aid, or use of a sink box or any other type of low-floating device having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water.
- From or by means, aid, or use of any motor vehicle, motor-driven land conveyance, or aircraft of any kind, except that paraplegics and persons missing one or both legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance.
- From or by means of any motorboat or other craft having a motor attached, or any sailboat, unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased.
- By the use or aid of live birds as decoys. All live, tame, or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of wild migratory waterfowl.
- By the use or aid of recorded or electrically amplified bird calls or sounds,

or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds.

- By means or aid of any motor-driven land, water, or air conveyance, or any sailboat used for the purpose of or resulting in the concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up of any migratory bird.
- By the aid of baiting (placing grain, salt, or other feed to constitute a lure or attraction), or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. An area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the complete removal of bait. The following do not constitute baited areas or baiting: standing crops or flooded standing crops; standing, flooded, or manipulated natural vegetation; flooded harvested croplands; lands where seeds have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation, or normal soil stabilization practice; hunting from a blind or other place of concealment that is camouflaged with natural vegetation or vegetation from agricultural crops as long as such camouflaging does not result in the exposing or scattering of grain. Normal agricultural practices must be conducted in accordance with recommendations of the State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture — Cooperative Extension Service. A normal agricultural planting is undertaken for the purpose of producing a crop. Waterfowl may not be hunted over freshly planted wildlife food plots where grain or seed has been distributed, scattered, or exposed because these plots are not normal agricultural plantings or normal soil stabilization practices. For doves only, grain or feed distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultural crop on the land where it was grown does not constitute baiting.

## Wanton Waste

No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird, and retain it in one's actual custody, at the place where taken or between that place and either (a) one's automobile or principal means of land transportation; or (b) one's personal abode or temporary or transient place of lodging; or (c) a migratory bird preservation facility; or (d) a post office; or (e) a common carrier facility.

## Opening Day of a Season

No person on the opening day of the season shall possess any freshly killed migratory game birds in excess of the daily bag limit or aggregate daily bag limit, whichever applies.

## Field Possession Limit

No person shall possess, have in custody, or transport more than the daily bag limit or aggregate daily bag limit, whichever applies, of migratory game birds, tagged or not tagged, at or between the place where taken and either (a) one's automobile or principal means of land transportation; or (b) one's personal abode or temporary or transient place of lodging; or (c) a migratory bird preservation facility; or (d) a post office; or (e) a common carrier facility.

## Tagging Requirements

No person shall put or leave any migratory game birds at any place (other than one's personal abode), or in the custody of another person for picking, cleaning, processing, shipping, transportation, or storage (including temporary storage), or for the purpose of having taxidermy services performed, unless such birds have a tag attached, signed by the hunter, stating the hunter's address, the total number and species of birds, and the date such birds were killed. Migratory game birds being transported in any vehicle as the personal baggage of the possessor shall not be considered as being in storage or temporary storage.



### Custody of Birds of Another

No person shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

### Termination of Possession

Subject to all other requirements of this part, the possession of birds taken by any hunter shall be deemed to have ceased when such birds have been delivered by the hunter to another person as a gift; or have been delivered by the hunter to a post office, a common carrier, or a migratory bird preservation facility and consigned for transport by the Postal Service or a common carrier to some person other than the hunter.

### Gift of Migratory Game Birds

No person may receive, possess, or give to another any freshly killed migratory game birds as a gift, except at the personal abodes of the donor or donee, unless such birds have a tag attached, signed by the hunter who took the birds, stating such hunter's address, the total number and species of birds, and the date such birds were taken.

### Transportation of Birds of Another

No person shall transport migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

### Species Identification Requirement

No person shall transport within the United States any migratory game birds, except doves and band-tailed pigeons, unless the head or one fully feathered wing remains attached to each such bird at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the personal abode of the possessor or a migratory bird preservation facility.

### Marking Package or Container

No person shall transport by the U.S. Postal Service or a common carrier migratory game birds unless the package or container in which such birds are transported has the name and address of the shipper and the consignee and an accurate statement of the numbers of each species of birds therein contained clearly and conspicuously marked on the outside thereof.

### Nontoxic Shot

Shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading) possessed or used while hunting teal statewide, or doves, rails, snipe, and woodcock as designated by posting on public areas, must be approved as nontoxic by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As of June 2018, shot types approved as being nontoxic are:

- Bismuth-tin
- Copper-clad iron
- Corrosion-inhibited copper
- Iron (steel)
- Iron-tungsten
- Iron-tungsten-nickel
- Tungsten-bronze (two types)
- Tungsten-iron-copper-nickel
- Tungsten-iron-polymer
- Tungsten-matrix
- Tungsten-polymer
- Tungsten-tin-bismuth
- Tungsten-tin-iron
- Tungsten-tin-iron-nickel

# General Information

## Conservation Areas Requiring Nontoxic Shot

A nontoxic-shot only regulation for all hunting with a shotgun is in effect at 21 conservation areas. These areas have large wetlands where waterfowl and shorebirds concentrate in the fall and spring. **Note:** Waterfowl hunters must use nontoxic shot for all duck, goose, and coot hunting regardless of where they are hunting.

Use or possession of lead shot is prohibited on the following Department of Conservation areas:

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| ■ Black Island        | ■ Little Bean Marsh  |
| ■ Bob Brown           | ■ Little River       |
| ■ Columbia Bottom     | ■ Marais Temps Clair |
| ■ Cooley Lake         | ■ Montrose           |
| ■ Coon Island         | ■ Nodaway Valley     |
| ■ Duck Creek          | ■ Otter Slough       |
| ■ Eagle Bluffs        | ■ Schell-Osage       |
| ■ Fountain Grove      | ■ Settle's Ford      |
| ■ Four Rivers         | ■ Ted Shanks         |
| ■ Grand Pass          | ■ Ten Mile Pond      |
| ■ B.K. Leach Memorial |                      |

## Proper Handling of Game Birds

- Do not handle or eat birds that are obviously sick or birds that were found dead. Contact your local Conservation Department office if you find sick or dead birds (see the inside front cover for contact information).
- Work in a well-ventilated area or upwind when cleaning game birds to minimize exposure to airborne particles from dust, feathers, or dander.
- Wear rubber gloves when handling birds.
- Wash hands with soap and water or alcohol-based disinfectant and disinfect tools after handling birds.
- Do not eat, drink, or smoke while handling birds.
- Keep game birds cool, clean, and dry.
- Cook birds to an internal temperature of 165 degrees F.
- Contact your healthcare provider if you develop fever or other flu-like symptoms and let them know that you have had recent contact with wild birds.

## Report Your Bands to [reportband.gov](http://reportband.gov)

Bands recovered and reported by hunters provide important information about survival, migration, harvest rates, and distributions for a variety of migratory game birds. To report band numbers from all types of birds (except pigeons), go online at [reportband.gov](http://reportband.gov). You will receive a certificate of appreciation via email and information about the bird. The band is yours to keep.

## When Hunting From a Boat

Boating safety is an important aspect of duck hunting, especially in the frigid weather often encountered during waterfowl season. Follow these practices to ensure your hunt doesn't end in tragedy.

- When using a boat with a motor, including a layout boat, special state statutes apply. See [mshp.dps.missouri.gov/MSHPWeb/WaterPatrol](http://mshp.dps.missouri.gov/MSHPWeb/WaterPatrol).
- Leave a detailed float plan with family or friends.
- Check the weather forecast. High winds can be dangerous.
- Don't overload the boat.
- Load gear low in the boat and distribute the weight evenly.
- Wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket at all times.
- If using chest waders, wear a belt to keep them from filling with water.
- Carry a throwable flotation device in case someone falls overboard.
- Transport firearms unloaded, cased, and with the action open.
- At the first sign of a storm, head for shore.
- Exercise additional caution when boating through flood waters.

If your boat swamps or capsizes:

- Stay with the boat, and use distress signals.
- To retain body heat, pull your knees to your chest and keep your elbows to your sides.
- To stay afloat, place oars under your knees and behind your back.
- If decoys are in reach, stuff them inside your jacket.

## Help Stop Zebra Mussels

Zebra mussels have been found in several lakes and rivers in Missouri. Although less than 2 inches long, these invasive animals:

- Disrupt native aquatic animals and communities.
- Clog the cooling systems of boat motors, causing them to overheat.
- Plug intake pipes, cutting off water supplies to cities and power plants.
- Ruin beaches with their sharp shells and rotting carcasses.
- Spread quickly — a single female can produce 1 million eggs a year.

When moving from one water body to another:

- Clean all plants, animals, and mud from your boat, putting plants and other debris in the trash. Thoroughly wash your boat and gear in hot water, especially crevices and other hidden areas.
- Drain all water from your boat, decoys, and equipment before leaving the water body.
- Dry your boat completely before launching it in other waters.
- Report sightings to Aquatic Habitat Specialist, 412 S. Killingsworth, Bolivar, MO 65613-1872. Save several mussel shells for identification by placing them in rubbing alcohol or by freezing them.

# Sunrise and Sunset



DAY	Sept. 2018		Oct. 2018		Nov. 2018		Dec. 2018		Jan. 2019		Feb. 2019		March 2019		April 2019	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
1	6:38	7:39	7:05	6:51	7:35	6:09	7:07	4:48	7:26	4:58	7:14	5:31	6:41	6:02	6:54	7:32
2	6:39	7:37	7:05	6:50	7:37	6:08	7:08	4:48	7:27	4:59	7:14	5:32	6:40	6:03	6:52	7:33
3	6:40	7:36	7:06	6:48	7:38	6:06	7:09	4:48	7:27	5:00	7:13	5:33	6:38	6:04	6:51	7:34
4	6:41	7:34	7:07	6:47	6:39	5:05	7:10	4:48	7:27	5:01	7:12	5:34	6:37	6:05	6:49	7:35
5	6:42	7:32	7:08	6:45	6:40	5:04	7:11	4:47	7:27	5:02	7:11	5:35	6:35	6:06	6:48	7:36
6	6:42	7:31	7:09	6:44	6:41	5:03	7:12	4:47	7:27	5:03	7:10	5:36	6:34	6:07	6:46	7:37
7	6:43	7:29	7:10	6:42	6:42	5:02	7:13	4:47	7:27	5:04	7:09	5:37	6:32	6:08	6:45	7:38
8	6:44	7:28	7:11	6:41	6:43	5:01	7:14	4:47	7:27	5:05	7:08	5:39	6:31	6:09	6:43	7:39
9	6:45	7:26	7:12	6:39	6:44	5:01	7:15	4:48	7:26	5:05	7:07	5:40	6:29	6:10	6:42	7:40
10	6:46	7:25	7:13	6:38	6:45	5:00	7:15	4:48	7:26	5:06	7:05	5:41	7:28	7:11	6:40	7:41
11	6:47	7:23	7:14	6:36	6:46	4:59	7:16	4:48	7:26	5:07	7:04	5:42	7:26	7:12	6:39	7:41
12	6:48	7:22	7:15	6:35	6:47	4:58	7:17	4:48	7:26	5:08	7:03	5:43	7:25	7:13	6:37	7:42
13	6:49	7:20	7:16	6:33	6:49	4:57	7:18	4:48	7:26	5:09	7:02	5:44	7:23	7:14	6:36	7:43
14	6:49	7:18	7:17	6:32	6:50	4:56	7:18	4:48	7:25	5:11	7:01	5:45	7:22	7:15	6:34	7:44
15	6:50	7:17	7:18	6:30	6:51	4:56	7:19	4:49	7:25	5:12	7:00	5:47	7:20	7:16	6:33	7:45
16	6:51	7:15	7:19	6:29	6:52	4:55	7:20	4:49	7:25	5:13	6:58	5:48	7:19	7:17	6:32	7:46
17	6:52	7:14	7:20	6:28	6:53	4:54	7:20	4:49	7:24	5:14	6:57	5:49	7:17	7:18	6:30	7:47
18	6:53	7:12	7:21	6:26	6:54	4:54	7:21	4:50	7:24	5:15	6:56	5:50	7:16	7:19	6:29	7:48
19	6:54	7:10	7:22	6:25	6:55	4:53	7:22	4:50	7:23	5:16	6:55	5:51	7:14	7:20	6:27	7:49
20	6:55	7:09	7:23	6:24	6:56	4:52	7:22	4:51	7:23	5:17	6:53	5:52	7:13	7:21	6:26	7:50
21	6:56	7:07	7:24	6:22	6:57	4:52	7:23	4:51	7:22	5:18	6:52	5:53	7:11	7:21	6:25	7:51
22	6:56	7:06	7:25	6:21	6:58	4:51	7:23	4:52	7:22	5:19	6:51	5:54	7:09	7:22	6:23	7:52
23	6:57	7:04	7:26	6:20	6:59	4:51	7:24	4:52	7:21	5:20	6:49	5:55	7:08	7:23	6:22	7:53
24	6:58	7:02	7:27	6:18	7:00	4:50	7:24	4:53	7:21	5:21	6:48	5:56	7:06	7:24	6:21	7:54
25	6:59	7:01	7:28	6:17	7:01	4:50	7:25	4:53	7:20	5:23	6:47	5:57	7:05	7:25	6:19	7:55
26	7:00	6:59	7:29	6:16	7:02	4:49	7:25	4:54	7:19	5:24	6:45	5:58	7:03	7:26	6:18	7:56
27	7:01	6:58	7:30	6:15	7:03	4:49	7:25	4:55	7:18	5:25	6:44	5:59	7:02	7:27	6:17	7:57
28	7:02	6:56	7:31	6:13	7:04	4:49	7:26	4:55	7:18	5:26	6:43	6:01	7:00	7:28	6:15	7:58
29	7:03	6:55	7:32	6:12	7:05	4:48	7:26	4:56	7:17	5:27			6:59	7:29	6:14	7:59
30	7:04	6:53	7:33	6:11	7:06	4:48	7:26	4:57	7:16	5:28			6:57	7:30	6:13	8:00
31			7:34	6:10			7:26	4:58	7:15	5:29			6:55	7:31		

These tables are for Jefferson City and points on the same longitude north and south. For locations east, subtract one minute for each 13.5 miles of airline distance. For locations west, add one minute for each 13.5 miles. For example, St. Louis is 106 miles east: subtract 8 minutes; Kansas City is 133 miles west: add 10 minutes. To find the sunrise and sunset times in your area, visit [www.usno.navy.mil/USNO/astromical-applications](http://www.usno.navy.mil/USNO/astromical-applications). Sunrise and sunset from Sept. 1 to Nov. 3 and from March 10 to April 30 have been converted to daylight saving time.

# Seasons at a Glance

Species	Season Dates	Shooting Hours	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
<b>Doves (Mourning, Eurasian Collared, and White-Winged)</b>	Sept. 1–Nov. 29, 2018	One-half hour before sunrise to sunset	15, combined total of all species	45, combined total of all species
<b>Rails (Sora and Virginia)</b>	Sept. 1–Nov. 9, 2018	One-half hour before sunrise to sunset	25, combined total of all species	75, combined total of all species
<b>Wilson's (Common) Snipe</b>	Sept. 1–Dec. 16, 2018	One-half hour before sunrise to sunset	8	24
<b>American Woodcock</b>	Oct. 15–Nov. 28, 2018	One-half hour before sunrise to sunset	3	9
<b>Early Teal (Blue-Winged, Green-Winged, and Cinnamon)</b>	Sept. 8–23, 2018	Sunrise to sunset	6, combined total of all species	18, combined total of all species
<b>Early Canada Goose and Brant</b>	Oct. 6–14, 2018	One-half hour before sunrise to sunset	3, combined total of both species	9, combined total of both species
<b>Youth Waterfowl-Hunting Days</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>North Zone:</b> Oct. 20–21, 2018</li> <li>▪ <b>Middle Zone:</b> Oct. 20–21, 2018</li> <li>▪ <b>South Zone:</b> Nov. 17–18, 2018</li> </ul>	One-half hour before sunrise to sunset	Same as during regular waterfowl seasons	Same as during regular waterfowl seasons
<b>Ducks and Coots</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>North Zone:</b> Nov. 3, 2018–Jan. 1, 2019</li> <li>▪ <b>Middle Zone:</b> Nov. 3–9, 2018 and Nov. 15, 2018–Jan. 6, 2019</li> <li>▪ <b>South Zone:</b> Nov. 22–25, 2018 and Dec. 3, 2018–Jan. 27, 2019</li> </ul>	One-half hour before sunrise to sunset	6 ducks with species restrictions of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4 mallards (no more than 2 hens)</li> <li>▪ 3 scaup</li> <li>▪ 3 wood ducks</li> <li>▪ 2 black ducks</li> <li>▪ 2 canvasbacks</li> <li>▪ 2 hooded mergansers</li> <li>▪ 2 pintails</li> <li>▪ 2 redheads</li> <li>▪ 1 mottled duck</li> </ul> 15 coots	18 ducks (three times daily bag limit, varies by species)  45 coots
<b>Geese (Canada, Brant, White-Fronted, Snow, and Ross's)</b>	Nov. 11, 2018–Feb. 6, 2019	One-half hour before sunrise to sunset	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 3 Canada geese and brant, combined total of both species</li> <li>▪ 2 white-fronted geese</li> <li>▪ 20 light geese (snow, blue, and Ross's geese)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 9 Canada geese and brant, combined total of both species</li> <li>▪ 6 white-fronted geese</li> <li>▪ No possession limit for light geese</li> </ul>
<b>Light Goose Conservation Order</b>	Feb. 7–April 30, 2019	One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset	No daily bag limit	No possession limit